

# Play and learn activities – Numbers and Letters

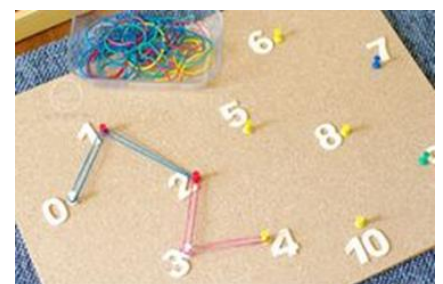
Try refraining from asking your child “what colour is this, count how many etc.” which can place great pressure on your child to respond. Your child will respond to your comments on the activity when they want to or feel confident to do so. This communication might be with **eye contact**, **touching you**, **continuing with the activity**, **vocalising** or **saying what they see**.

Thread these plastic balls onto a line of string.  
 Enjoy pushing them back and forth. Spin them.  
 Copy what your child does with the balls.  
 Name the colour as your child moves the balls.  
 Count them as they move each one.



Using a sharpie pen, write numbers on Duplo bricks. Name the number brick your child picks up. Model building a tower with the bricks.

Using a thick piece of cardboard box or cork tile, place notice board pins around the board. Place number stickers by each pin or write the number next to the pin. Show your child how to stretch elastic bands from one pin to another.



Using a tennis ball or hollow rubber ball, cut a 4cm slit in it so that you can see inside the ball. Stick two googly eyes on above the slit or draw the eyes on.

Squeeze the sides of the slit so that it opens up like a mouth. Feed small items into the mouth e.g. beads, pompoms etc.

Count each piece or name the colour of each piece as it is fed through the mouth.

Cut fish shapes out of card. Draw a number on each one. Put a metal paper clip on the head of each one.

Tie a small magnet to a piece of string. Tie the string to a stick to make a fishing rod!

Hold the stick so that the magnet hangs over the fish. The magnet will connect with the paper clip and then you will have caught the fish. Name the number on the fish. Name the colour of the fish.

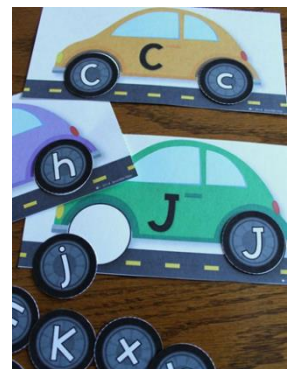


Number Fishing  
Tuff Spot



Write or stick numbers or letters inside plastic bottle lids. Put the lids in a large plastic box or bowl of water. Using a cooking spatula or slotted spoon, scoop out the lids. Name the letter or number. Can you collect the letters of your name and match them onto your name card like we can see in the picture?

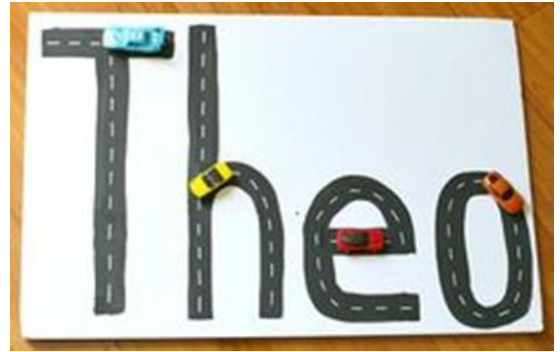
Place letters inside plastic bottle lids. Can you find the matching letter of the car and use the lids as the cars tyres?



Collect woden pinch pegs. Write letters or numbers on each peg . Clip them onto the bottom of a coat hanger, or attach them to a number or alphabet line. Can you spell your name or favourite word.



Using a large piece of paper (old roll of wallpaper works well) draw the letters of your child's name. Use small toy cars to drive along each letter of their name.



Place salt in a shallow tray. Draw a single letter on each piece of paper. Choose a letter and copy the shape of the letter in the salt using your finger or a stick.

Put a sheet of rainbow coloured paper on the bottom for extra fun!



Stick plastic letters to craft/lolly sticks. Find your favourite letter. Use the sticks to display the letter by pushing it into playdough.



Good luck and have fun!