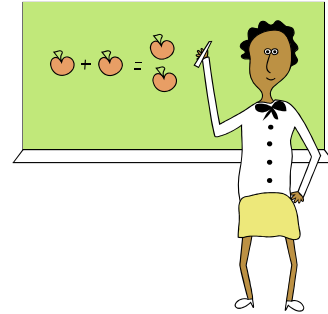


Learning to Add

Level: K-1

Vocabulary: add, put together, all together, same as

Materials: pencil and 3x5 cards, any set of like items



1st Activity: Like Things

Start with sets of identical items, like Legos, GI Joes, checkers, dominoes (face down) or another set of small items. Go through adding by ones, then twos (note the patterns), then fives (note the patterns), then threes, then tens (note the patterns), as far as they are able. You might also work with cut-out figures (like simple dolls) on a larger board (with masking tape), if you like.

2nd Activity: Flash Cards

Work with your child, making a set of flash cards. Talk about how to memorize the addition facts with him/her, emphasizing patterns. Then practice with the cards. Remove facts that your child knows, and make special signs about the other facts. Try to reward your child for mileposts in knowing the addition facts.

3rd Activity: Addition Projects

Involve your child in cooking from a simple recipe or in a simple construction project. Show your child how the days of the month that are all Mondays (or any day of the week) have a seven pattern. Play shopping with play money, making change, as appropriate with the mathematical level of your child.