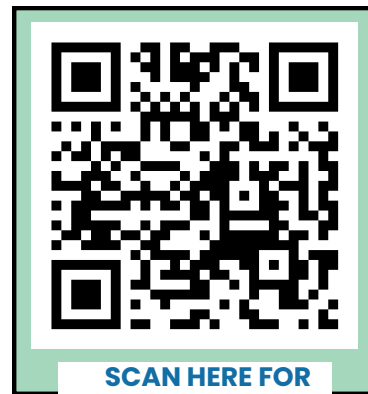


EVERYDAY SKILL BUILDERS

Numeracy through song



SCAN HERE FOR
VIDEO TUTORIAL

Numeracy in early childhood starts well before recognising numbers or counting to 10! Indeed the pre-cursor numeracy concepts of *attribute*, *comparison*, *change* and *pattern* form the vital foundations upon which an understanding of number systems is built. Music and singing is a great avenue for incorporating many of these concepts – particularly pattern – into everyday moments. It's also a great way to incorporate counting up, counting down and even number recognition for children interested in more advanced skills.

TIPS FOR MAKING NUMERACY SONGS PART OF YOUR EVERYDAY

- 1 Incorporate songs with a clap along rhythm, encouraging children to clap to the beat, or use clap sticks to create patterns for children to copy. Copying a beat supports children's understanding of pattern – a key numeracy skill.
- 2 Build your repertoire of number songs. Having a range of songs at the ready means you'll be ready to scaffold learning anywhere, anytime. Start with the basics – 5 little ducks, 10 cheeky monkeys, 10 fat sausages, 5 currant buns, 5 little fingers. Scan the QR code to learn a few old favourites.
- 3 Create new words to well known songs to support numeracy learning through fun games. These work beautifully with small groups. See example below.
- 4 Extend learning through making a song book with the children containing their favourite songs and number games. Children can take these books home to share with their family.

EXAMPLE

Using the well known song of '5 Currant Buns' you can create fun games to support number recognition for those children who are interested. Start by creating some number cards with the children to use as props for the game. Scan QR Code to see this song in action.

5 Currarnt Buns becomes "Down at the corner shop"
Down at the corner shop, what did I see?
All of these numbers looking at me!
Along came Lingling with some money one day
And she bought the number 5, and took it right away!

[Blog article: How to explore maths in the early years](#)

Notes

Reflections

