

10 Ways to Practise Maths in the Garden



Play skittles.



A target game.



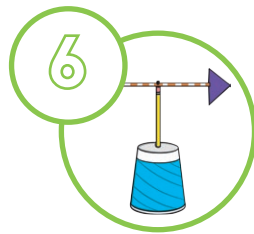
Water play.



Build slopes.



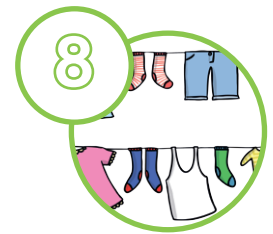
Use timers.



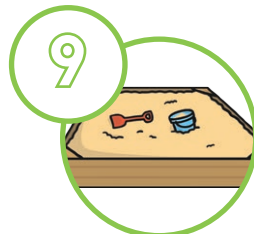
Weather gauge.



Build dens.



Peg on a washing line.



Sand play.



Shape hunt.

10 Ways to Practise Maths in the Garden



Play skittles together. Count the number of skittles that are knocked down after each roll. Calculate the number of skittles knocked down after two rolls. This is a great way to practice number bonds too! You can make your own skittles by upcycling 2-litre plastic bottles, use this [Plastic Bottle Ten Pin Bowling Wraps Numbers 1-10](#) to add numbers.



Play target games using small balls or bean bags. Use chalk to draw targets on the floor and give each target a score. Calculate the score after two throws. The targets can be any shape; try drawing circles, triangles, squares and rectangles.



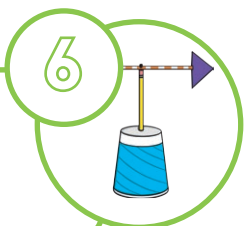
Water play using different sized pots, jugs and buckets will help your child to investigate and understand the idea of volume and capacity. What fits in one jug may not fit in a smaller jug. Investigate volume and displacement with this [Get That Water Busy Bag Resource Pack for Parents](#).



Use guttering or a plank to investigate slopes. Provide boxes for your child to alter the steepness of the slope. Your child can investigate slopes using balls and vehicles. You can extend the activity by using a shoe to measure how far a car travels once it has gone down the slope. How many shoe lengths did it travel?



Time your children doing activities. Use a sand timer, stopwatch or the timer on your phone. Challenge them to do an activity for one minute, this will help them to understand the concept of time. Set up an obstacle course together and time how long it takes to complete the course. Then challenge your child to beat their time.



Measure the weather. Buy a weather station or make your own with this [Weather Station Garden Craft Instructions](#). Measure rainfall and the direction of the wind. You could record your observations over a week as a science experiment.

10 Ways to Practise Maths in the Garden

7



Build dens. Making dens by trial and error and fixing them when they collapse is an excellent way for your child to explore space, weight and size. They will need to compare the size of the different fabrics, sticks, fasteners etc. Your child will need to problem-solve to work out which sticks will work best together and how they can be attached to create the amount of space and shape they need.

8



Set up a washing line at child height. Ask your child to peg up socks in their pairs. Your child will have to find matching socks. Ask your child to peg up three or four items of clothing in size order. You could provide clothing of different sizes from siblings and other family members. These [Numbers 0-20 on Clothing](#) can be laminated and pegged on the line too.

9



Like water play, sand play with different sized pots, jugs and buckets will help your child to investigate and understand the idea of volume and capacity. What fits in one bucket may not fill a larger jug.

10



Look for shapes outside. What shape is a fence panel, or a brick? What shape is a patio slab? Ask your child for the bucket with the circle top, or to find a stone that is a diamond shape.