My First Numbers

Free next-step check

Created by Nathan Yeo

Before you start

Keep the answers out of sight. Read each question aloud and give your child time to think. Pointing or saying the answer is fine. You don't need to do everything at once, and there's no score to keep.

After each activity, notice how it felt today

Came easily	Needed a little help	Not sure today
Try one small next step	Practise the same idea together	Leave it and try again another day

1 Find the numbers

A. Ask one at a time: “Can you point to 2?” Then ask for 4, 1, 5 and 3. If that felt easy, try B.

A • Point

3 1 5 2 4

B • Name

2 5 1

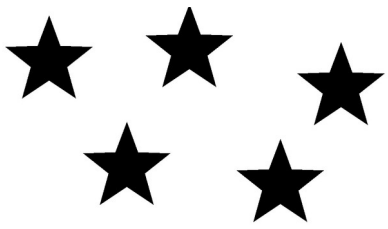
2 Count the stars

For each group ask: “How many stars are there?” Your child can touch each star as they count.

A



B



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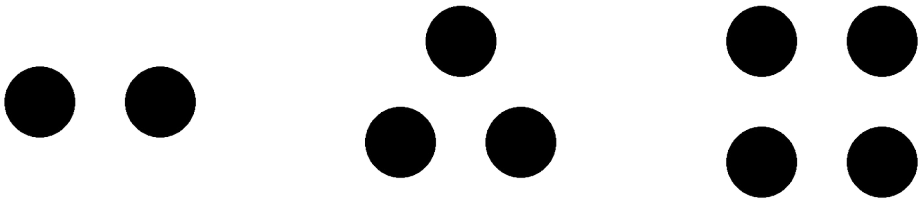
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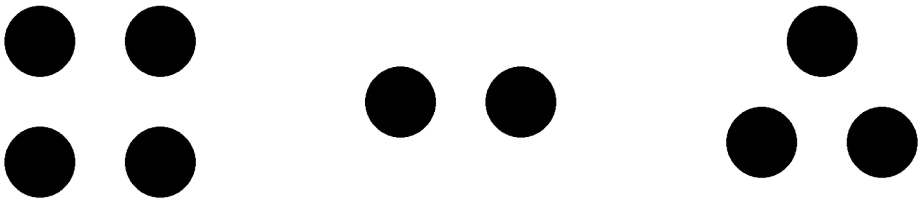
3 Match the number and the group

Ask: “Which group has this many dots?” The number above is the one your child is matching.

A **3**

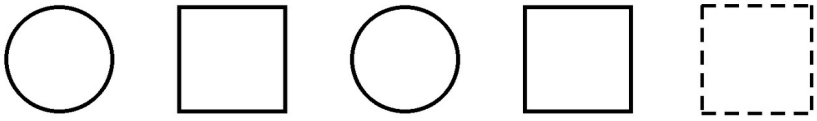


B **4**



4 Finish the pattern

Ask: “What comes next?” Your child can say the shape or point to one like it.



Had enough for today? Stop here. That's plenty.

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A few more things to try

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These are a little further on. Don't worry if they're new. They're ideas for what to try next.

5 Put the numbers in order

Ask your child to point to the numbers in order, starting with 1. No writing needed.

4 1 3 5 2

6 More, or the same?

A. Ask: “Which group has more?” B. Ask: “Are they the same, or does one have more?”

A



B



Next, turn to the parent guide for the answers and one simple idea to try after each activity.

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My First Numbers

Parent guide

Created by Nathan Yeo

What should we do next?

Use what you noticed. One activity may feel easy while another still needs practice.

Activity	Answer	Needed a little help	Came easily
1. Find the numbers	A: points to the number you name. B: 2, 5, 1.	Show only two numbers at first. Name one and ask your child to point to it.	Mix 1–5 and ask which number comes before or after one you name.
2. Count the stars	A: 3. B: 5.	Use a smaller group. Touch each object once as you count together.	Make the same amount with toys or blocks. Then try one more than the group you just counted.
3. Match number and group	A: the 3-dot group. B: the 4-dot group.	Leave only two choices. Count each group together, then match it to the number.	Make a new group for a number from 1–5. Later, compare two groups: more or the same.
4. Finish the pattern	Circle or dot.	Say it together: “circle, square, circle, square...” and pause at the gap.	Let your child make a simple repeating pattern for you to finish.
5. Put numbers in order	1, 2, 3, 4, 5.	Write 1, 2 and 3 on scraps of paper and put them in order together. Add 4 and 5 when that feels comfortable.	Ask “What comes after 3?” Then try a missing number such as 1, 2, __, 4, 5. Later, extend towards 10.
6. More, or the same?	A: the 4-dot group has more. B: the groups are the same.	Count each group separately, then look at them side by side.	Try closer groups such as 4 and 5, or ask your child to make one group the same as another.

Not sure today?

Tired or not interested? Leave it for another day. If you've tried again and it still doesn't click, go back to the 'If Something Feels Tricky' section in your book and use one of the simpler ideas there.

One last thing

If something feels comfortable on a few different days, that's a better sign to try the next step than one perfect attempt.

Thank you for choosing My First Numbers. Questions or ideas? Please use the contact link on the website.

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