



For helping your child understand the number system

Children should read and write numbers from 1 to 20 in numerals and words. ➡ Children should compare and order numbers from 0 up to 100 and know that = means is equal to/ the same as ➡ Children should recognise the place value of each digit in a two-digit number (tens, ones)

1. Show your child how to write their numbers in the correct formation -rhymes such as "make an s and do not wait, when it's joined you have an 8". Please note over writing dotted numbers is harder than copying for some children.
2. Talk about = as meaning 'the same as'. An old fashioned set of balance scales can help with this concept -put the same quantity of things on each side and see how it is "balanced" "equal" "the same"
3. When counting more than 10 objects encourage your child to group the objects into groups of 10 and 'extra' ones. Show them how this links to the way we write the number -how many groups of 10, how many ones?
4. Try not to talk about numbers as digits e.g. telling them to write 34 as "a 3 and a 4", instead try saying "it's 3 tens and 4 ones".
5. If your child reverses the digits in 2 digit numbers (a normal stage of development!) try writing T U (standing for tens and units) faintly above where they are writing as a prompt.
6. If your child reverses the digits in 2 digit numbers, read the number to them -is that what they wanted to write? If still confused count out both versions of the number to show the difference e.g.12 and 21.
7. Play the comparison game -the nice version. Each player needs to draw

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The aim of the game is to make the largest number. Roll a dice/ pick a number card . Place the digit in a box. Take it in turns until all the boxes are full. The player with the largest number scores a point. The first player to 10 points wins.
8. Play the comparison game -the nasty version As above but players can choose whether to place a digit in their box or their opponents. Additional versions can be found at <http://wrich.maths.org/6605>
9. Use Apps such as 'Motion Math Zoom'
10. Play online games such as: <http://www.ictgames.com/dinoplacevalue.html>
http://www.bbc.co.uk/schools/starship/maths/games/place_the_penguin/big_sound/full.shtml
<http://www.ictgames.com/sharknumbers.html>
<http://www.ictgames.com/LIFEGUARDS.html>
http://www.ictgames.com/arrowCards_revised_v6.html

