



Early Learning Matters

Because parents are their children's first, best teachers.

Everything Counts

Be sure to spend time counting things with your two year old. They may not have started counting yet or they might count but not in order (one, three, two, five). But they will follow your example when you count with them, and begin to use numbers correctly. Here are some things you can count with your child:

- Count each stair while she goes up or down.
- Count the buttons on his shirt.
- Count her toes and fingers.
- Count the cars you see as you drive.
- Count her toys when she puts them away.

Use numbers all day while you talk about your day. For example, you can say,

- “Now I’m putting two pieces of bread in the toaster.”
- “There are three cars in the driveway.”

You can also make charts about everyday events and keep count for a week:

Á Put the stickers from fresh fruit on a piece of paper, keeping each kind of fruit on a separate line. Then you can count how many apples, oranges, bananas your family has eaten.

Á Make a smiley face on a piece paper for each time your child brushes her teeth or washes her face.





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Count them at the end of each day.

