

### **MATH/Early Numeracy (AGES 3-4)**

- Play matching games: *Ask your child to help set the table with safe items, such as spoons and paper plates, or to find objects around the house/classroom or in books that are the same.*
- Play counting games: *Count body parts, stairs and other things you use or see every day.*
- Explore outdoors with your child and look for shapes and colors.
- Point out numbers on signs, in the grocery store, etc.
- Have your child use body parts (hands, thumbs, feet, arms) to judge the size or length of something.
- Show your child different objects and pictures, and figure out which one is larger by sight.
- Show your child how to use body parts (hand, feet, arms, etc.) to measure.
- Ask your child “Which is larger?” or “Which is more?” and listen to the answer. Ask why.
- Ask your child to tell the total of two small groups of items
- Play “placing” games with your child with location words (such as “Put the ball under/on top of/beside the table.”). Take turns giving the directions.

### **More Complex (AGES 4-5)**

- Use number names to say the number of an object (*“There are two trees.”*)
- Ask your child to count out things to put on the table for a meal or the items in your grocery cart.
- Talk aloud while doing simple math *such as counting the number of snacks.*
- Help your child apply numbers and counting to daily life *such as measuring ingredients for cooking.*
- Have your child compare the size of a small animal (*such as a bird*) with the size of a part of the child’s body (*fist, arm, etc.*).
- Play games that use position and size words (first, last, big, little, top, bottom).
- Have your child compare two small sets of objects and decide whether one group is more, less or the same as the other.
- Count down the days to an event (*such as by crossing out days on a calendar*) to develop awareness of the calendar.

*Source: Washington State Early Learning and Development Guidelines: Birth through 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade (2012)*