

Number Bonds to 5

Finding numbers to make 5 is so important. Often, these numbers are called 'Number Bonds' or the 'Family of 5'. They are at the very heart of understanding how our number system is formed.

Activities for Number Bonds to 5

❖ Using fingers:

Begin with counting the number of fingers on one of your and your child's hand. Next, discover and discuss all the ways to make 5 with your fingers.

0 and 5, 1 and 4, 2 and 3, 3 and 2, 4 and 1



0 and 5,



1 and 4, etc.

❖ Play games such as 'Show me':

Ask your child to show you how to make 5 using the fingers on their two hands. Help your child to show the correct number of fingers on each hand. It will take time and practice, but it is good fun!

Celebrate all success and even those that come close!

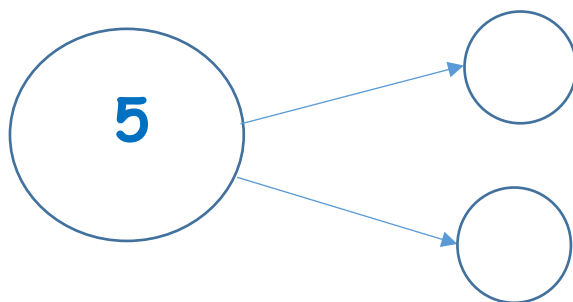
❖ Paper hands:



Trace around your child's hands on paper and cut them out. Stick the palm of each hand onto a sheet of paper/card and leave the fingers free to move. Now you can bend down the fingers in turn to show the different ways to make 5. Fill in the table below.

Bent down paper fingers	How many more to make 5
0 fingers	
1 finger	
2 fingers	
3 fingers	
4 fingers	
5 fingers	

❖ Use the template below or draw a similar one and ask your child to fill in the different ways of making 5.



❖ Hiding Numbers:

Hiding games are usually a great success to help your child with understanding and 'seeing' number bonds. For this game, write the numbers 1 to 5 on pieces of paper. You will need two sets. Hide the numbers around a room. As soon as all the pieces have been found, ask your child to match the numbers that make 5.

Write 2 sets of the numbers 0 to 5 on squares of paper.



Next,



❖ Clothes Peg Track:

Write the numbers 0 to 5 on a piece of paper (see below) and put one number on a clothes peg. Now ask your child to attach another the number to the other clothes peg to make a total of 5.

