

Ideas for using number cards 1 to 20

Activity 1

Order numbers from 1 to 20 to create a number line. Child closes their eyes while you turn over 2 numbers. Child opens their eyes. Which numbers have been turned over? Check their answers by looking at the overturned number cards. Repeat so the child hides the numbers while you identify which numbers are missing. Extension: What is the difference between the two numbers that have been turned over? Count on from one to the other.

Activity 2

Put numbers in a bag. Child picks out a number & you pick out a number. The player with the biggest number wins. Repeat but change the rules; this time, the smallest number could win.

Activity 3

Arrange numbers in a number line. Child & adult have a different coloured counter each. The player rolls a dice and moves their counter the corresponding number of places along the number line. The first player to get to 20 is the winner. When they are confident with counting on, change the rules so they have to start at 20 & count back the corresponding number of places on the dice. This time, the winner is the first player to get down to 1.

Activity 4

Arrange numbers in a number line. Child closes their eyes & adult mixes 2 numbers up so that they are in the wrong place. Which numbers are mixed up?

Activity 5

Hide the number card behind something e.g. a book. Slowly reveal the top part of the number. Can they guess what the number is without showing them the whole number card?

Activity 6

An adult picks a number card out of a bag. The child asks questions to identify what the number is e.g:

Is it more than 10?

Is it a teen number?

Is it less than 5?

Repeat where the child picks a number out of a bag for the adult to answer the questions.