How can I help my child with numeracy?

There are many simple informal ways to help your child develop confidence, logical thinking and reasoning strategies. This can be achieved through showing them how to apply maths skills and think mathematically in daily situations. Here are some ideas.

I can help my child with numeracy by:

- Being positive and having fun with maths
- Singing counting songs and nursery rhymes
- Counting (eg. days to events, collections of items like toys, books, shoes)
- Playing games like Dominoes, UNO, Snakes and Ladders, Yatzee
- Completing puzzles like Suduku
- Using everyday tools like tape measures and kitchen scales when doing activities like cooking and measuring
- Encouraging the use of maths skills when:
  - shopping (eg. grocery shopping within budget, measuring materials for craft activities, reading and using money)
  - travelling (eg. distance to shopping centre, beach, next town)
  - cooking (eg. reading and measuring)
  - playing or watching sport (eg. scores, time, playing field, angles)
- Using an ipad or similar to access Apps. involving number skills
- Using mathematical language (eg. how much? how big/small? how many? how long? How heavy?)
- Talking about patterns and shapes (eg. numbers on library books, street addresses, spatial patterns and shapes in playgrounds, architecture, gardens)
- Collecting catalogues, particularly ones of interest to your child, and looking at costs, budgets and saving plans
- Estimating, measuring and comparing heights, weights, lengths and how much containers hold
- Planning a trip (eg. reading timetables, cost, travel options like time of day or bus compared with train travel, overall cost including food and entertainment, using calendars and clocks)
- Reading and interpreting weather maps, rain gauges and weather station information together
- Using money (how much items cost, working out change)

For more ideas try......

Google – “How can parents help develop numeracy at home”