

# Early Math is *Everywhere*: Some Tips for Supporting Young Children

Created by JaNay Brown-Wood, PhD, Author & Educator



## Development of the Whole Child

### Social and Emotional Development

Related to relationships, knowledge and understanding of self and others, emotional communication, interpersonal skills, friendships, and morality

### Physical Development

Related to the body, nutrition, body function, motor development, and physical growth

### Cognitive Development

Related to the mind, intelligence, problem solving and math skills, imagination/creativity, attention, memory, knowledge base.

## A Few Foundational

### Early Math Concepts and Practices

- Counting aloud (forward and backward)—related to **Number Sense**
- Identifying numerals (written versions of numbers) —related to **Representation**
- Shape, size, and patterns —related to **Spatial Sense and Patterning**
- Understanding how much (more or less) —related to **Measurement and Estimation**
- **One-to-one correspondence**
- **Problem Solving**

## What YOU can do TODAY!

- **Go for a walk and...**
  - Count (how many trees do you see? Cars? Clouds?)
  - Compare (Is this bigger or smaller?)
  - Categorize (Smooth or rough rocks?)
  - Find shapes (how many circles do we see?)
  - Estimate and predict (How many steps from here to there?)
- **Find numbers in your environment**
  - Clock, labels, addresses, mailboxes, etc.
- **Sing, read, and talk about numbers**
- **Get hands on with activities that build concept understandings**
  - Blocks, cooking, calendars, beads and patterns, etc.

### References

- Berk, L. E., & Meyers, A. B. (2015). *Infants, children, and adolescents* (8th ed). Boston, MA: Pearson
- <https://earlymath.erikson.edu/why-early-math-everyday-math/big-ideas-learning-early-mathematics/>
- Zero to three: <https://www.zerotothree.org/resource/help-your-child-develop-early-math-skills/>
- <https://prek-math-te.stanford.edu/>

Check out the **Storytelling Math Series** from Charlesbridge Publishing for some GREAT math books for young children:  
<https://www.charlesbridge.com/collections/storytelling-math>

Learn more about JaNay and her books: [www.janaybrownwood.com](http://www.janaybrownwood.com)

# Additional Resources

## Lists of Math Books

- <https://dreme.stanford.edu/news/40-childrens-books-that-foster-a-love-of-math/>
- <https://www.weareteachers.com/picture-books-about-math/>
- <https://www.teachingexpertise.com/classroom-ideas/picture-books-about-math/>
- <https://imaginationsoup.net/the-biggest-list-of-the-best-math-picture-books-ever/>
- <https://www.charlesbridge.com/collections/storytelling-math>

## Lists to Find Diverse Books

- The Conscious Kid: <https://www.theconsciouskid.org/>
- #Disrupt Text: <https://disrupttexts.org/>
- American Indians in Children's Literature: <https://americanindiansinchildrensliterature.blogspot.com/>
- Children's Book Council Diversity: <http://www.cbcdiversity.com/>
- First Books: <https://firstbook.org/>
- We Need Diverse Books: <https://diversebooks.org/>

## Nation's Report Card

- <https://www.nationsreportcard.gov/>

## Cooperative Children's Book Center (diversity statistics):

- <https://ccbc.education.wisc.edu/>



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