

CHILDREN'S HOME SOCIETY OF CALIFORNIA

Family Child Care Home Education Network (FCCHEN)
Parent and Provider Resource: Activities for Distance Learning

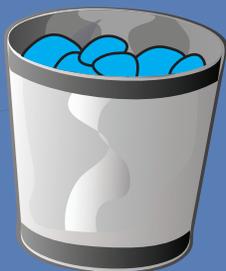
Playing with Math

The following activity will support your child's learning while they are at home. Talk to your child and ask questions as you play. As your child listens to you, your child builds language and social skills, further reinforcing the concepts you are teaching. Match activities to your child's favorite books, songs, or toys to make them more meaningful learning experiences. Visit our website at www.chs-ca.org and click on the News and Events tab for more learning resources.

SCHOOL-AGE - Activity: Math by Color Game

What you need:

- Small can or plastic container with a lid
- Ten pebbles (small rocks)
- Paintbrush
- Red and blue paint
- Paper and pencil
- Optional: substitute red and blue markers instead of paint

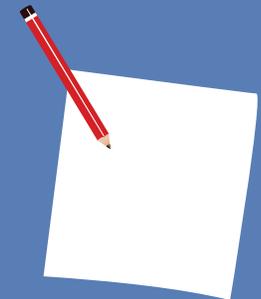


What to do:

- Ask your child to help prepare this activity. It can be played with two or more people
- Use the poster paint to paint the pebbles red on one side. Let them dry, and then paint them blue on the other side
- When they are completely dry, place the pebbles in the can and put on the lid
- Take turns gently shaking the can and dumping the pebbles out on the table
- Separate the pebbles by color and create an addition, subtraction, multiplication, or division problem. For example: 4 red pebbles and 6 blue pebbles equals 10 ($4+6=10$), or 3 red pebbles times 7 blue pebbles equals 21 ($3 \times 7=21$)
- Continue taking turns and thinking of other math problems, such as fractions: 4 red pebbles over 6 blue pebbles equals $\frac{4}{6}$. Can we reduce $\frac{4}{6}$? What does that look like with pebbles?
- Once your child masters talking out the problem using the pebbles, invite him to write the math equation on a piece of paper. Discuss how the symbols in math equations replace words
- When done, store the pebbles in the can for another day

What the activity does:

- Practices arithmetic skills in multiple ways by using objects, describing problems, and writing equations
- Promotes the use of math vocabulary and literacy
- Develops critical thinking as children create their own arithmetic problems and talk through how to solve them
- Encourages turn-taking and negotiating



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