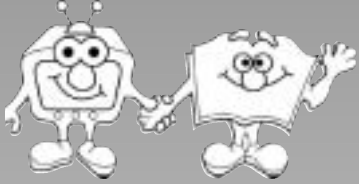


CONNECTIONS

Making good TV better for young children

Vol. 56, February 2004



LINK IDAHOPTV SHOWS TO A BOOK TO FOSTER A LOVE OF READING.

Start with a great PBS show.

Connect to a book and an activity for fun and powerful learning.

Look inside for ideas on TV and book connections.



Build Literacy Skills with Television

Published monthly by
Idaho Public Television
1-800-543-6868
www.idahoptv.org/kids

The contents of this publication are supported under the Ready-To-Learn Television program, P/R Award Number R295A00002, as administered by the Office of Educational Research and Improvement, U.S. Department of Education. However, the contents do not necessarily represent the policy of the Department of Education, and you should not assume endorsement by the Federal Government.

February Theme: MATH

Emergent Mathematicians

Children are mathematicians from the day they are born. As children interact with their environment and other people they are constantly building knowledge. Young children may not be able to add or subtract, but their relationships with people and their interactions with a stimulating environment set the stage for the development of math concepts.

Perhaps it is time to begin looking at learning math concepts the same way that we look at literacy development—as emergent. Reading to infants, toddlers, and preschoolers is known to be an early positive step toward literacy success.

It promotes and supports learning to read and write by immersing children in language and giving them an opportunity to interact with it.

Mathematical learning can be viewed in a similar way. Children begin to construct the foundations for future math concepts during the first few months of life. Before children can add or even count, they construct ideas about mathematics that cannot be directly taught. Ideas that will support formal mathematics later in life include order and sequence, and classification.

There are many easy things that parents can do to encourage the emerging mathematician in every child. Offer your infant, toddler and preschooler opportunities and materials to promote their construction of mathematical thinking. The tips on helping your children construct math concepts that are listed beside this article are a great place to start.

Adapted from "Children Are Born Mathematicians", Young Children, July 2001

Tips on Helping Your Child Learn Math Concepts

- Good books provide a context for learning math concepts. Stories spark children's curiosity about their world, serving as springboards for mathematics investigation.
- Use numbers, counting, and quantification in everyday activities, like sorting clothes to be washed, counting forks to set the dinner table, and measuring amounts of food when baking.
- Play with blocks, puzzles and other manipulatives. Children who are surrounded with interesting objects are naturally led to make relationships between those objects.
- Rhythm and music activities are excellent for promoting emergent mathematic skills, such as patterns, sequence, and classification.

Math



VIEW

SESAME STREET Friday, February 27
at 11:30/10:30 a.m. MT/PT
Problem solving and number of the day

BARNEY & FRIENDS Friday, February 13
8:00/7:00 a.m. MT/PT
*BARNEY and his friends
learn about numbers*

CYBERCHASE every weekday
4:00/3:00 p.m. MT/PT
Programs about math



READ

Let's Count Baby

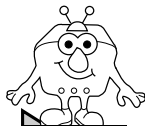
by Cheryl Willis Hudson

Babies and toddlers everywhere will love learning to count with this fun and sturdy board book.

Ten Black Dots

by Donald Crews

Children count all the way to ten with simple rhymes and brightly colored objects.



VIEW

THE LEARNING TRIANGLE



READ



DO

Mouse Count

by Ellen Stoll Walsh

A hungry snake counts his dinner into a jar, but is outwitted by the ten clever mice.



DO

Make a snack kabob by alternating chunks of fruit and cheese. This is a fun way to teach your child about patterns and sequence.

Prepare cookie dough for rolled cookies. Use a rolling pin to roll the dough evenly. Use circle, square, and triangle shaped cookie cutters to create different shaped cookies.

Weigh and measure your child frequently. Make a chart together that will show your child how much he or she has grown.

Take turns tossing a ball or a pair of folded socks into a laundry basket or bucket. Keep track of how many times the ball goes into the basket.

Enlist your child's help in preparing and serving snacks. How many people need a snack? How many snacks do we need so that everyone has one? Two? Do we have enough yet?

Go on math "Scavenger Hunts" with your child. Everywhere you go talk about numbers, shapes, and patterns that you find. For example, look for numbers on signs, buildings, and in the car. Next walk around your house and find as many circular objects that you can. Last, look for patterns on floors, wallpaper or on clothing.



FEBRUARY TITLES

Weekdays at 2:30/1:30 MT/PT ... www.gpn.unl.edu/rainbow

- 2 **Meanwhile Back at the Ranch**
(The Old West)
- 3 **Come a Tide**
(Natural disasters/dramatic weather)
- 4 **The Shaman's Apprentice**
(Rainforest; Medicinal herbs)
- 5 **Opt: An Illusionary Tale**
(Optical illusions)
- 6 **Tar Beach**
(George Washington Bridge)
- 9 **Mufaro's Beautiful Daughters**
(African culture)
- 10 **Follow the Drinking Gourd**
(Underground railroad)

- 11 **Uncle Jed's Barbershop**
(Homelessness, freedom)
- 12 **Amazing Grace**
(Inspirational women)
- 13 **The Wonderful Towers of Watts**
(Communities)
- 16 **Galimoto**
(Uses of wire)
- 17 **Appelmando's Dreams**
(Imagination)
- 18 **The Wall**
(Vietnam Veteran's Memorial and other monuments)

- 19 **Owen**
(Adjusting to change)
- 20 **Badger's Parting Gifts**
(Remembrance; dealing with death)
- 23 **Abiyoyo**
(Story telling techniques)
- 24 **Hip Cat**
(Jazz music)
- 25 **Berlioz the Bear**
(Musicians)
- 26 **Mama Don't Allow**
(Music)
- 27 **Sophie and Lou**
(World dance)



Weekdays at 4:30/3:30 p.m.MT/PT
pbskids.org/zoom

Feb. Topic

- 2 Gift giving; Dealing with feeling left out
- 3 Relay races; Cooking up a seven layer dip
- 4 Original members visit Zoom; Making dream catchers
- 5 Sock basketball; Mini ham and cheese quiches
- 6 All About You; Paper flowers; Zoom reunion
- 9 Original members visit Zoom; Making dream catchers
- 10 Homemade chalk; "Excuse Me, What Are You Doing?" game
- 11 The Balloon Show; A family peanut farm

- 12 Tic Tac Toe relay; Cinnamon snails
- 13 Dancing raisins; Edible spiders
- 16 Homemade chalk; "Excuse Me, What Are You Doing?" game
- 17 The Balloon Show; A family peanut farm
- 18 Tic Tac Toe relay; Cinnamon snails
- 19 Quilts; Apple bagle sandwiches
- 20 Pepper power; Ticklish tea
- 23 Quilts; Apple bagle sandwiches
- 24 Pepper power; Ticklish tea
- 25 Easy costumes; Family traditions
- 26 The Coin Show; Penny relay
- 27 Backpack relay; Hand shadow animals



Weekdays 9:00/
 8:00a.m. MT/PT
pbskids.org/caillou

Feb. Topic

- 2 Cold Outside!
- 3 New Places and New Things!
- 4 Step By Step
- 5 I Love To Pretend!
- 6 All Wet!
- 9 Animals and Me!
- 10 Outdoor Adventure
- 11 All Around the Block
- 12 Doing It Together
- 13 When I Grow Up
- 16 10 Summertime
- 17 I'm All Better
- 18 Pets!
- 19 My Sister Rosie
- 20 Caillou Creates
- 23 Caillou Cooks
- 24 Food-A-Licious
- 25 Traveling
- 26 Puppy Love
- 27 Best Behavior



Weekdays at 8:00/7:00 a.m. MT/PT
 Sundays at 7:00/6:00 a.m. MT/PT
pbskids.org/barney

Feb. Topic

- 2 Kites
- 3 Good manners
- 4 Dogs
- 5 Empty boxes are fun
- 6 Crossing the street
- 9 Colors
- 10 Exercise and nutrition
- 11 Brass bands
- 12 Meeting new friends
- 13 Numbers
- 16 Inside and outside
- 17 Spring activities
- 18 Safety
- 19 Triangles
- 20 Bike parade & safety
- 23 A happy and fun day
- 24 Family
- 25 Water
- 26 Houses
- 27 Water Fountains



CYBERCHASE

Weekdays at 4:00/
 3:00 p.m.MT/PT
pbskids.org/cyberchase

Feb. Topic

- 2 Make hard problems easier
- 3 Finding meaning from data
- 4 Probability and chance
- 5 Estimation
- 6 Geometry
- 9 Area
- 10 Measurement of time
- 11 Fractions
- 12 Patterns
- 13 Time travel
- 16 Reasoning and proof
- 17 Number sense
- 18 Hacker's trick
- 19 Timekeeping
- 20 Symmetry
- 23 Combinations
- 24 Measuring angles
- 25 Equivalent Fractions
- 26 Logic
- 27 2- & 3-D geometry

MISTER ROGERS'S NEIGHBORHOOD

Weekdays 1:00/12:00 noon MT/PT
pbskids.org/rogers



Feb. Topic

- 2-6 Art
- 9-13 Love
- 16-20 Grandparents
- 23-27 Fast & Slow

**Link TV to books & activities
 for themed learning fun!**

February VIEW-DO-READ Theme Weeks



Sunday

1
EXPLORING
 Have You Seen My Duckling?
 by Nancy Tafuri
The Tale of Peter Rabbit
 by Beatrix Potter



BETWEEN THE LIONS
 Adventure story
 10:00/9:00 a.m.
 MT/PT

Monday

2
BARNEY & FRIENDS
 Flying kites
 8:00/7:00 a.m.
 MT/PT



Tuesday

3
CAILLOU
 New places & new things
 9:00/8:00 a.m.
 MT/PT



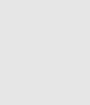
Wednesday

4
CLIFFORD'S PUPPY DAYS
 Trying new things
 9:30/8:30 a.m.
 MT/PT
 4:30 p.m. PT



Thursday

5
BARNEY & FRIENDS
 Exploring empty boxes
 8:00/7:00 a.m.
 MT/PT



Friday

6
ZOOM
 Exploring who you are
 4:30/3:30 p.m.
 MT/PT



Saturday

7
 Explore a new food. Discuss how it looks, smells, feels, and tastes.

8
CARING FOR OTHERS
 I Love You As Much
 by Laura Krauss Meimed
Tell Me Something Happy Before I Go to Sleep
 by Joyce Dunbar

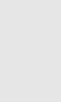


SAGWA, THE CHINESE SIAMESE CAT
 Valuing others
 9:00/8:00 a.m.
 MT/PT

10
READING RAINBOW
 Underground railroad
 2:30/1:30 p.m.
 MT/PT



11
CLIFFORD'S PUPPY DAYS
 Helping others
 9:30/8:30 a.m.
 3:00/2:00 p.m.
 MT/PT
 4:30 p.m. PT



12
CLIFFORD THE BIG RED DOG
 Emily picks Clifford
 9:30/8:30 a.m.
 3:00/2:00 p.m.
 MT/PT
 4:30 p.m. PT



13
ARTHUR
 Arthur cleans up
 10:00/9:00 a.m.
 7:00/6:00 a.m.
 MT/PT



14
 Make a coupon books to give to members of your family. Coupons can be good for free hugs, reading, a time, chores, or a game of choice.

15
MATH
 Ten Black Dots
 by Donald Crews
Mouse Count
 by Ellen Stoll Walsh



PLAZA SESAMO
 New numbers in Spanish every Sunday!
 8:00/7:00 a.m.
 MT/PT

16
CYBERCHASE
 Programs about math every weekday!
 4:00/3:00 p.m.
 MT/PT

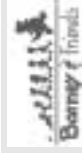


17
GEORGE SHRINKS
 Following directions
 1:30/12:30 p.m.
 MT/PT



ZOOM
 Tic Tac Toe
 4:30/3:30 p.m.
 MT/PT

19
BARNEY & FRIENDS
 Triangles
 8:00/7:00 a.m.
 MT/PT



20
SESAME STREET
 Numbers everyday!
 11:30/10:30 a.m.
 MT/PT



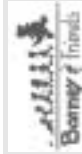
21
 How many windows are in your home? Which room has the most windows? Fewest? Are all the windows the same size?

22
MOVEMENT
 Clap Your Hands
 by Lorinda Bryan Cauley
Mama Zooms
 by Jane Cowen-Fletcher



ANGELINA BALLERINA
 Dancing
 9:30/8:30 a.m.
 MT/PT

23
MISTER ROGERS' NEIGHBORHOOD
 Programs about fast & slow all week
 1:00/12:00 p.m.
 MT/PT



BARNEY & FRIENDS
 Dancing
 8:00/7:00 a.m.
 MT/PT

25
CAILLOU
 Traveling
 9:00/8:00 a.m.
 MT/PT



26
ZOOM
 Relays
 4:30/3:30 p.m.
 MT/PT



27
READING RAINBOW
 Dancing
 2:30/1:30 p.m.
 MT/PT



28
 Make a list of "Ways to Move." Try moving across the room all the different ways on your list.



www.idahoptv.org/kids
 Web site resources include episode descriptions and more activities and ideas for children and those who care for them.

Ready To Learn Workshops

Idaho Public Television offers free workshops for parents and child care providers of children ages birth through 8 years. Our topics include "Raising Readers," "Take Charge of Your TV," "Teaching Children Anger Control," and "Learning Through Play." If your group would be interested in hosting a workshop, call Lynn Allen 208-345-4453.