So You Have to Teach Math: Setting Up for Math Success

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What Math is DAP for Preschool? End of Year PreK Guidelines for Math

- <u>Number and Number Operations</u>
 - V.A.1 Recognizes that things (or parts of things) can be counted
 - V.A.2 Counting sequence to 30 (can start from a number other than one)
 - V.A.3 Counts objects with one-to-one correspondence to 10
 - V.A.4 Knows counting sequence is always the same, regardless of what is counted
 - V.A.5 Knows last number said is the number in the set (cardinality)
 - V.A.6 Knows items can be counted in any order
 - V.A.7 Uses ordinal numbers (first, second, third)
 - V.A.8 Subitizes (know number in set without counting) up to five items
 - V.A.9 Recognizes digits 0 to 9
- Adding and Taking Away
 - V.B.1 Verbalizes or uses objects to create word problems (adds up to 5)
 - V.B.2 Verbalizes or uses objects to create word problems (subtracts from 5)

- V.B.3 Shares or divides up to 10 items equally
- Geometry and Spatial Sense
 - V.C.1 Names common shapes (rhombus, square, triangle, circle, rectangle)
 - V.C.2 Makes shapes (with dough, drawing, etc.)
 - V.C.3 Uses positional words (over, under, beside, between, etc.)
 - V.C.4 Knows turning or sliding doesn't change shape
- Measurement
 - V.D.1 Compares two lengths
 - V.D.2 Compares two capacities
 - V.D.3 Compares two weights
 - V.D.4 Uses language to describe passage of time
- <u>Classification and Patterning</u>
 - V.E.1 Sorts objects and describes how groups are similar/different
 - V.E.2 Collects data and organizes it in a graphic representation
 - V.E.3 Recognizes and creates patterns

What Teachers Can Do

- 1. Create real-life counting situations. "Do we have enough snacks? Let's put a cracker on each napkin and count."
- 2. Incorporate counting into transitions "How long will it take us to clean up the blocks? Let's count." "Let's count to thirty while we wash our hands."
- 3. Sing counting songs throughout the day. "One little, two little, three little children."
- 4. Reinforce cardinality by saying, "So, how many do you have?" when children finish counting a set. You may also ask another child to tell how many without re-counting.
- 5. Use ordinal numbers to describe where children are in line. "Joey is first. Mei is second. Who is third?"
- 6. Use positional words to describe where toys are on the shelf. "The bear is beside the truck. It is between the truck and the doll. What is on the shelf above the truck?"
- 7. Create math centers that are engaging and DAP not just focused on "school skills" like writing numbers.
- 8. Read a variety of math-themed picture books and explore the math concepts. (see list of books below)
- 9. Talk about math in a positive way! Encourage children to be curious and try to make sense of the mathematical world. Describe problem solving and reasoning approaches to everyday problems. "I wonder if all of the blocks will fit in this tub. That is really a math problem, isn't it? Let's see if we can figure it out."
- 10. Go on pattern hunts and shape hunts. Use correct terminology for shapes.
- 11. Pump up the math in permanent centers. For example, put up a little sign that says, "How long is the sand table? Count bears to find out."
- 12. Keep the pan balance out—all the time! The balance is great for building ideas about equality and weight. "Two baby bears are equal to one papa bear." "My crayon box is lighter than a glue bottle."

What Directors Can Do

- 1. Require teachers to spend **at least 40 minutes a day** in focused math instruction and activities. This can be done in short segments and in whole and small group. Five minutes reading a counting book. Twenty minutes in math centers. Fifteen minutes doing a meaningful math activity in whole group with an individual activity to follow.
- 2. Encourage teachers to integrate math with other subjects and centers. For example, put play money in the dramatic play center. Put counters in the reading center so that children can "keep track" of illustrations on pages of counting books. Facilitate children's writing about math by posting numbers in writing center.
- 3. Purchase high quality math materials and make sure they are available for children to explore. (See list of manips below.)
- 4. Give teachers ongoing professional development in math. I would love to help!
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- 5. Listen for and reinforce teachers' "math talk." Encourage teachers to ask children who are building with blocks, "How many red blocks did you use?" "Can you make a pattern with the red, green, and blue blocks?" When you hear these things, cheer!
- 6. Build a school-wide culture of math. Be math positive! Math is for every child, every day.
- 7. Share math activities with parents through newsletters, bulletin boards, and displaying children's work.
- 8. Communicate DAP math expectations to parents through newsletters, parent conferences, etc.
- 9. Use authentic assessment to evaluate students' math learning (portfolios, observations, anecdotal records) then plan lessons.
- 10. Include mathematics objectives on student assessments or evaluations. Be DAP! Not just recognizing numerals or counting.

Basic Manipulatives for Building Foundations in Math

Pattern Blocks

Pattern blocks can be used for:

- Patterns
- Geometry
- Symmetry

Hundred Charts

A hundred Chart can be used for:

- Visual counting/skip counting
- Visual addition and subtraction
- Patterns in our number system

Snap Cubes or Unifix Cubes

Can be used for:

- Counting/skip counting
- Addition/Subtraction
- Patterns
- Equality
- Graphing
- Measurement

- Probability
- 3D shapes

Color 1" Tiles

These are 1" x1" square color tiles in four colors. They can be used for:

- Counting/skip counting
- Patterns
- Addition/Subtraction
- Measurement (length and area)
- Graphing and probability

Two-Sided Counters

Two-Sided Counters are circular chips with different colors on each side. They can be used for:

- Addition/Subtraction
- Probability

Fifty Math Picture Books that are Worth Buying

5 Frames and 10 Frames

They can be used for:

- Addition/Subtraction
- Grouping/Subitizing
- Counting

Other Useful Mathematics Tools:

- Number lines
- Dice & spinners
- Measuring cups and spoons
- Calculators
- Decks of cards
- Tangrams
- Blocks of all sorts
- Pan balance

(wordless picture books marked with *)

1. Aker. S. What Comes In 2's, 3's & 4's? 2. Allen, P. Who Sank The Boat 3. *Anno, M. Anno's Counting Book 4. *Burnigham, J. 123 5. *Carle, E. 1, 2, 3 To The Zoo 6. Carle, E. The Grouchy Ladybug 7. Carle, E. Today Is Monday 8. Colandro, L. There Was An Old Lady ... Shell 9. Floca, B. Five Trucks 10. Hubbard, W. 2 Is For Dancing 11. Hutchins, H. A Second Is A Hiccup Two So Small 12. Hutchins, H. 13. *Hutchins, P. 1 Hunter 14. Hutchins, P. Clocks And More Clocks 15. Hutchins, P. Rosie's Walk 16. Hutchins, P. The Doorbell Rang 17. Jenkins, S. Actual Size 18. Jenkins, S. Biggest, Strongest, Fastest 19. Jonas, A. Round Trip 20. Keats, E. J. One Red Sun 21. Leedv. L. Measuring Penny 22. Lesser, C. Spots 23. Lionni, L. Inch By Inch 24. Long, L. **Domino Addition** 25. Merriam, E. 12 Ways To Get To 11

26.	Murphy, S. J.	Henry The Fourth
27.	Murphy, S. J.	Probably Pistachio
28.	Murphy, S. J.	Room For Ripley
29.	Nathan & McCou	art The Long And Short Of It
30.	O'Brien, M.	Counting Sheep To Sleep
31.	O'Leary, J.	Ten On A Train
32.	Ochiltree, D.	Sixteen Runaway Pumpkins
33.	Pienkowski, J.	Eggs For Tea
34.	Rau, D. M.	A Star In My Orange
35.	Ryan, P. M.	One Hundred Is A Family
36.	Reasoner, C.	Shapes For Lunch!
37.	Samton, S. W.	Moon To Sun: An Adding Book
38.	Sheppard, J.	The Right Number Of Elephants
39.	Sierra, J.	Counting Crocodiles
40.	Slobodkina, E.	Caps For Sale
41.	Steiner, J.	Look-Alikes
42.	Thong, R.	Round Is A Mooncake
43.	Viorst, J.	Alexander, Who UsedSunday
44.	Walters, V.	Are We There Yet, Daddy?
45.	*Wegman, W.	123
46.	Wells, R. E.	Is A Blue Whale The Biggest?
47.	Williams, R.L.	The Time Song
48.	Wojtowycz, D.	Animal Antics From 1 To 10
49.	Wood & Wood	Big Hungry BearStrawberry
50.	Yolen & Teague	How Do Dinosaurs Count?