

Crazy ways to come to school



Aquinas Early Maths Series

Help your child to master maths in
Reception and Year 1

Book 1 – zero to 3.



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and Katy McDaid

How to get the most from this book

This book will help your child with three important areas of early maths. When you read it with them, take time to look at and talk about the pictures together.

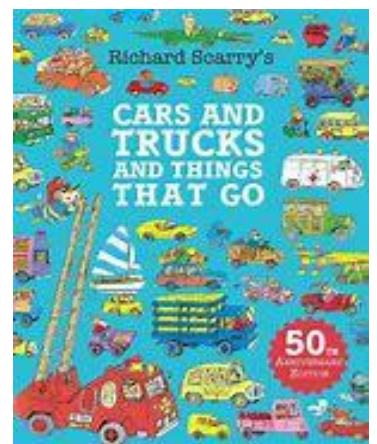
Then use the pictures and words to help your child:

1. To practice **counting** up to 3
2. To '**just see how many**' for up to 3 things – without having to count. This is an important skill called **subitising**.
3. To **show how whole numbers can be split into different parts**. This helps children grasp how numbers are related to each other and work together in simple addition and subtraction. For example, 3 can be split into '2 and 1' or '1 and 2'. This is called the **part - part - whole model**.

Try to read the book a number of times – the more you read it, the more fluent with numbers your child will become.

At the end of this book, you will find more suggestions for good ways to support your child to master Reception maths through games.

This book was inspired by Richard Scarry's Cars and Trucks and Things that Go. This beautiful book is full of fun, wonderful animals and things to look for, talk about and count!



Hello!

How do you come to school?

Do you walk or come in the car or get the bus? Maybe you scoot? Or perhaps you get the train?



This is Pat.

Pat walks to school with his mum.

Pat loves to see all the crazy ways that his friends come to school and count how many animals come each time.

Ricky Raccoon rides a rocket to school!

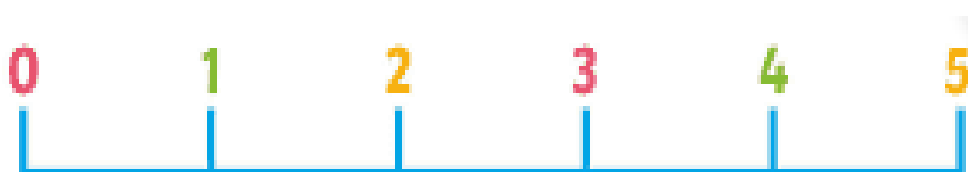
How many raccoons are there?

Count them or just say if you can see!



Can you show that many fingers?

Where is that on the number line?



The Pigs drive their Corn-On-the-Cob car to school.

How many pigs are there?

Count them or just say if you can see!



Can you show that many fingers?

Where is that on the number line?



The Foxes fly in an old fighter plane.

How many foxes are there?

Count them or just say if you can see.

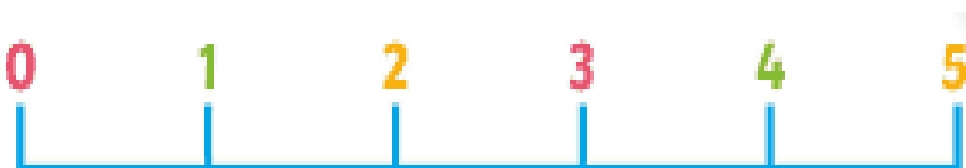


_____ in the front

_____ in the back.

_____ and _____ make _____.

Where is that on the number line?



Here are the Cat family. What makes their car crazy?

How many cats are there?

Count them or just say if you can see!



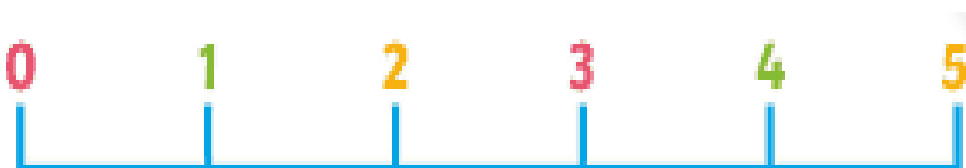
Can you show that many fingers?

_____ grey cat.

_____ ginger cats.

_____ and _____ make _____.

Where is that on the number line?



Here are the Bears.

They are coming to school on snowmobiles. But what will they do when there is no snow?

How many bears are there?



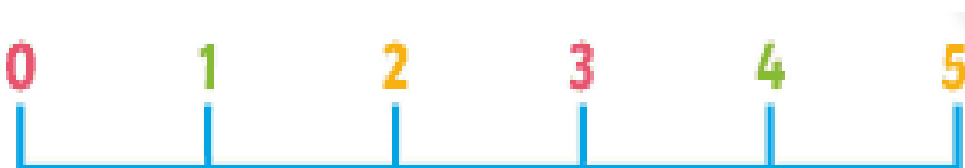
Can you show that many fingers?

_____ big bear

_____ smaller bear.

_____ and _____ make _____.

Where is that on the number line?



Here are the Panda family in the Bamboo Mobile!

How many pandas are there?

Count them or just say if you can see!



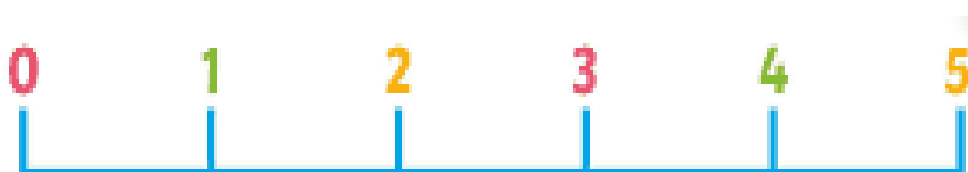
Can you show that on your fingers?

_____ in the front

_____ in the back

_____ and _____ make _____.

Where is that on the number line?

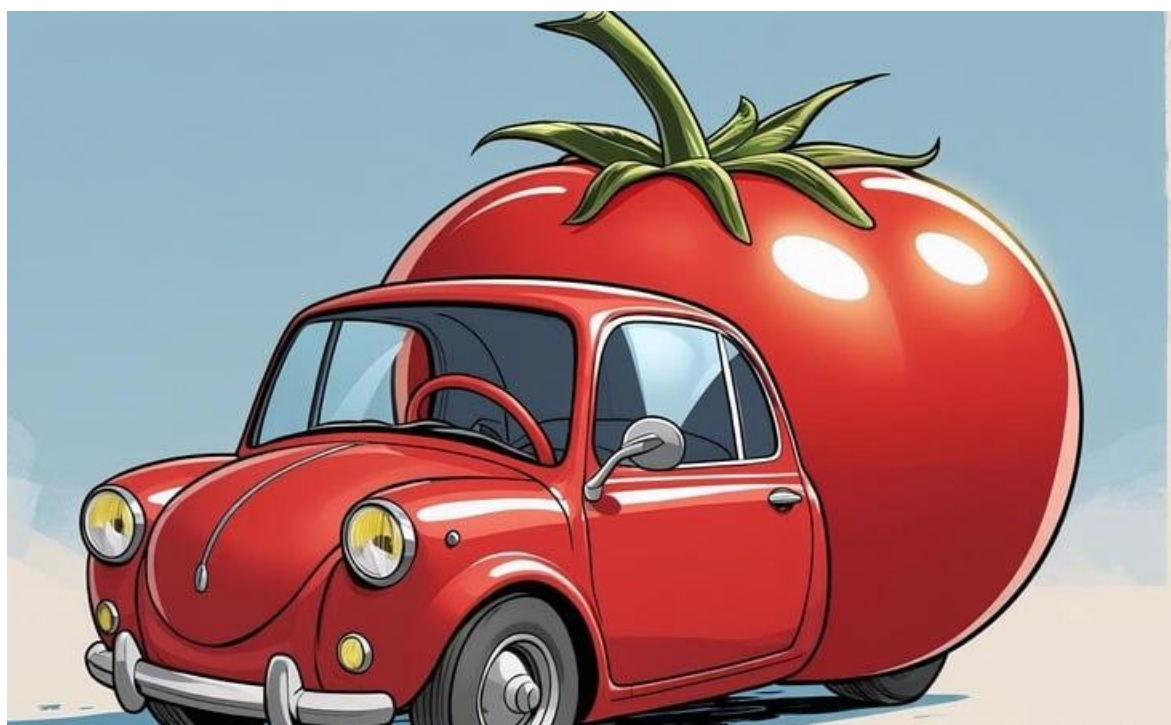


What a strange car!

How many animals are inside?

There are no animals inside, none at all.

The maths word for none is ZERO.



Can you show that on your fingers?

Where is that on the number line?



Here are the Golden Retrievers.

What is crazy about their car?

How many dogs are there?

Count them or just say if you can see!



_____ in the front

_____ in the back

_____ and _____ make _____.

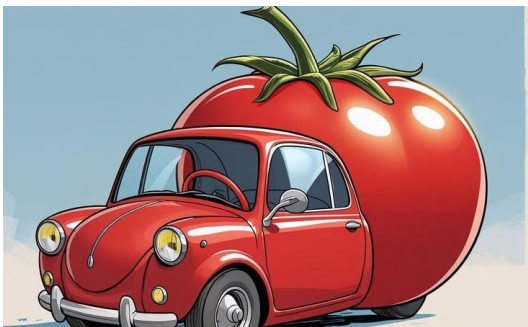
Where is that on the number line?



Here are all of the crazy ways to come to school.

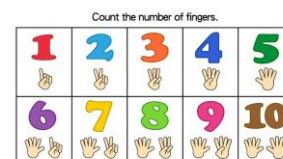
Which was your favourite?

Look at them again and see if you can say how many animals in each picture.



And which do you think was the craziest?

What else can you do to help your child with maths in Reception?



Use this QR code for the
Make 5! game

1. **Watching Numberblocks** together on BBC iPlayer. Watch the recommended episodes, sing, count and talk about them together,

2. **Practise counting** up to 5 and then 10 in different ways

- **Count up** from zero to 10. Count together, take turns and try different voices – like a whispering voice.
- Pretend to be in a rocket and **count down** from 10 to zero and shout 'Blast off!'
- **Count up and down from a number that is not 1.** For example, start at 5 and count up.
- **Hopscotch** – say the numbers as you jump on them.

3. **Practise 'just' seeing how many there are** without having to count. Build up to 5.

- Playing games with dice and dominoes is very helpful as the numbers are presented in consistent patterns.
- Fingers are also excellent. For example, show three on your fingers and ask them how many.
- 1 Minute Maths from White Rose is a free app. Look for the subitising activities.

4. **Play games like** [Make 5! \(with fingers\)](https://youngmathematicians.edc.org/math_games/make-5-with-fingers/) by the Young Mathematicians organisation. The website has clearly explained videos in English, Spanish and Portuguese. You work with your child to make 5 with the fingers on two hands. The adult starts. If the adult shows 2 on their hand, how many will the child need to show on their hand?

https://youngmathematicians.edc.org/math_games/make-5-with-fingers/

5. **Counting past 10 to see and hear the pattern in the words.** In Reception, the children focus on counting and really understanding the numbers to 10. We do also count past 10 and 20 with the emphasis being on understanding the pattern. For example **sixteen, seventeen, eighteen, nineteen, twenty, twenty-one, twenty-two, twenty-three...**

Watching the BAFTA Award-winning Numberblocks on BBC iPlayer is an excellent way to support your child. Watch the episode, talk about it and pause it at times to ask your child what is happening and to talk

Series 1 Overview
stories and mathematics

Numbers to 5



Episode	Name	Storyline	Mathematics
1	One	A little block falls out of the sky, meets her numberling and discovers one wonderful world, singing and counting to one.	• Meet <i>One</i> • Counting to 1
2	Another One	<i>One</i> discovers it's tricky to play tennis when you're the only block in the world. She bumps into a magic mirror and meets <i>Another One</i> – and they join forces to make <i>Two</i> .	• Meet <i>Two</i> • 2 is one more than 1
3	Two	<i>Two</i> finds a pair of magic dancing shoes and shows <i>One</i> that everything is better with 2, singing and counting things that belong in pairs.	• Counting to 2 • The 'twoness' of 2
4	Three	<i>Three</i> arrives with a bang – and a song-and-dance about her favourite number: 1, 2, 3, Everybody Look at Me!	• Meet <i>Three</i> • 3 is one more than 2
5	One, Two, Three!	<i>Three</i> does magic tricks with apples to show the others who goes first, who's biggest and how to surprise your number friends.	• Counting to 3 • Comparing numbers 1,2 and 3 – 'bigger' and 'smaller' • Ordering numbers 1 to 3 • 3 is made of 2 and 1
6	Four	<i>Four</i> is the new block on the block and he can't wait to share how much he loves to be square!	• Meet <i>Four</i> • 4 is one more than 3 • Counting to 4 • The structure of 4 as a square number • Recognition of 4 items without counting (subitising)
7	Five	<i>Five</i> arrives to get the band together – and gets the party started – with a big high five!	• Meet <i>Five</i> • 5 is one more than 4 • Counting to 5 • Line up 1 to 5 in order
8	Three Little Pigs	The Numberblocks present their very own, very numbery version of the classic tale: The Three Little Pigs and the Big Bad Square.	• Counting to 4 • Adding 1s
9	Off We Go!	<i>Five</i> and friends set off on a rhyming romp through field and forest but they keep getting mixed up!	• Counting to 5 • Line up 1 to 5 in order • Identify missing numbers within a 1 to 5 line-up

These episodes are the perfect way to start Numberblocks. Try to watch them in order and enjoy them a few times together.

Series 1 Overview

stories and mathematics

Numbers to 5



10	How to Count	It's a lovely day for a picnic but one of the flapjacks is missing! Is there a flapjack-snaffler on the loose or has <i>Three</i> forgotten what Numberblocks do best?	- The key principles of counting: One-to-one correspondence – match one number name to each item to be counted Cardinality – the last number in the count is the total size of the group Stable order – say the number names in the correct order
11	Stampolines	<i>Three</i> opens a stampoline park, where her friends have splatty fun making inky prints of all the shapes they can make.	- Subitising numbers 1 to 5 - Different ways of arranging blocks to 5 - Conservation of number – different arrangement of blocks but the number remains the same
12	The Whole of Me	The Numberblocks show us what they are made of in a song and dance all about the parts that make a whole.	- Composition of numbers 1 to 5 - Introduction to the 'part-part-whole' structure of number - Partitioning a whole number into parts - Conservation of number – a number can be partitioned but the whole (total) remains the same
13	The Terrible Twos	Double trouble as <i>Four</i> splits and a pair of tricky twins turn up: The Terrible <i>Twos</i> , who decide it's time to tickle their friends to pieces.	4 can be partitioned into 2 and 2; and, 1 and 1 and 1 and 1.
14	Holes	<i>Five</i> and friends discover a hole that makes their heads fall off!	- The number of a group can be changed by adding to it or taking from it. - Addition and subtraction of 1 - Number bonds to 5
15	Hide and Seek	<i>Five</i> is so good at hide and seek, she can find the others without looking up from her book – but how?	- Addition and subtraction of numbers to 5 - Number bonds to 5

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We also recommend a simple and fun game called 'How many are hiding?'

Full details at:

https://youngmathematicians.edc.org/math_games/how-many-are-hiding-2/