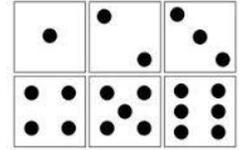




Numeracy at Preschool...



Number is the basis for Numeracy just as oral language is the basis for Literacy.

To support the development of numeracy skills and awareness, our small groups throughout the year provide fun based experiences to strengthen and develop skills and knowledge of numerals, counting, subitising (*the ability to immediately know how many items in a group without having to count*), sorting collections, comparing quantities, using numbers in play, matching, patterning and visual sequencing. Songs, games, rhymes, and books are used to reinforce concepts and help us to become confident and competent users of Numeracy as we support and encourage each other and have fun!

In collaboration with neighbouring preschools and Ann Baker, Natural Maths consultant, the 4 Top 5 of Preschool numeracy skills was developed. The 4 Top 5 was designed as a reference and guide, and is developmental in sequence with each Top 5 building on the last, with some of the skills in the 5th Top 5 not expected until children are in Reception.

The 4 Top 5 are:

1st Top 5

- I can find two that look the same. Sort a collection
- I can match two dot cards that look the same
- I can act out a rhyme
- I can use numbers in play
- I can subitise 1-2

2nd Top 5

- I can ask questions
- I can subitise 4-6
- I can rote count to 10
- I can touch count collections
- I can interact with a counting book



3rd Top 5

- I can understand first and last
- I can find quantities to 3
- I can find quantities to 6
- I can compare quantities – more
- I can follow rhymes that break the counting sequence

4th Top 5

- I can put my subitising cards in sequence
- I can compare quantities – less
- I can play a number games – memory/bingo
- I can subitise non-standard dice patterns
- I can work with doubles

During Term 1 our focus was on the 1st Top 5, with many experiences linked to the book *Handa's Surprise*. During Term 2 we are focusing on the 2nd Top 5, and plan to link many of our experiences to the book *Wombat Stew*, whilst continuing to consolidate our skills using the 1st Top 5. We will also explore other spontaneous topics of interest to the group, and explore other processes of numeracy such as patterning, reasoning, generalising, noticing, comparing, communicating, sorting, visualising, and wondering.

Some children may already have skills across many areas of the Top 5, some may not and that is OK! Over the year the children will have opportunities to learn new skills and consolidate ones they have already learnt.

Regards and happy playing,

The team at Mawson Lakes Preschool.

"Numeracy is the capacity, confidence and disposition to use mathematics in daily life... Children bring new mathematical understandings through engaging in problem solving. Spatial sense, structure and pattern, number, measurement, data argumentation, connections and exploring the world mathematically are the powerful mathematical ideas children need to become numerate." (Early Years Learning Framework 2009)

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10