

# SUCCESS BASICS

Five fun, easy and powerful ways to help your child grow smarter.

[successstartsearly.org](http://successstartsearly.org)

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early  
SUCCESS BASICS

## COUNT

## Tips for Toddlers & Preschoolers (12-60 Months Old)

### COUNT, GROUP, AND COMPARE

#### Count

Count with your toddler. Move to bigger numbers as they get the hang of it. Young children learn through all of their senses, so have them point to and touch the objects you count.

#### Add and Subtract

Explore what happens when you add or take away items from a group. “You have three crackers. How many will you have if you eat one?”

#### Look for Shapes

Point out shapes and describe them to your child. See if they can find shapes. “The clock is a circle. Do you see any other circles?” This is a great way to pass the time when you are doing errands.

#### Match and Sort

Make a game of matching and sorting objects into groups. Your child can match and sort items by their shape, color, size, or other features.

#### Compare Sizes and Amounts

For example, describe things as “large, small, light,” or “heavy.” Ask your child which objects are larger or smaller.

#### Put Things in Order

Practice putting things in order. For example, your child could arrange dolls from smallest to largest, youngest to oldest, or heaviest to lightest. See what other categories they come up with!

#### Make Math Part of Life

Math plays a part in life even when we don't realize it. For example, to prepare dinner, you measure ingredients, set the oven timer, and count plates. Find ways to let your child help.

#### Use Music

Clap and dance with your child. Your child will be learning about patterns while having fun.



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