

Children learn mathematics through comparing, describing and measuring the objects they handle and observe during everyday activities. Here are some ideas to help your child learn at home.

Watch and Listen While Children Play- Learn About Their Thinking

Watch children notice and talk about...

- how **long** things are and how **short** things are.
- how **heavy** things are and how **light** things are.
- **how much** something holds or how **little** something holds.

Everyday

Look for and compare things that are long or short or heavy or light or hold more or hold less when you are:

- Preparing a meal.
- Dressing for the day or dressing for bed.
- Doing the shopping.
- Reading a story.
- Driving in the car.
- Walking down the street,
- Catching a train.
- Moving around the house.
- Visiting family and friends.
- Playing in the park.

Comparing

When children notice things that are long or short or heavy or light or that hold more or hold less, encourage them to compare other objects.

- What can we find that is **longer/shorter/heavier/lighter/holds more/holds less?**
- How can we check?



Talking and Describing

When you talk with your children and describe things that are **long** or **short**, or **heavy** or **light**, or that **hold more** or **hold less**, then they will learn and use this mathematical language also.

House Hunt

Find the...

- **longest** or tallest thing in your house.
- **shortest** spoon in your house.
- **heaviest** vegetable in your house.
- **lightest** vegetable in your house.
- cup in your house that **holds the most** water.
- cup in your house that **holds the least** water.

Play Eye Spy

Eye spy with my little eye something that...

- is long!
- is short!
- is heavy!
- is light!
- holds a lot of water!
- holds a little water!