**What to do**

*IMPORTANT Parent or Carer –*

*Please check that you are happy with any weblinks or use of the internet.*

**1. Counting practice**

* Each person takes two handfuls of dried beans/Lego™ bricks/counters/beads.
* They place both handfuls carefully in a pile on a table.
* Each person estimates how many there are in the pile.
* Now count carefully, matching each brick to the spoken number.
* How many did you guess? How many were there?
* Have another turn. Were your guesses better?

Extension

* Try three handfuls together.

**2. Working together**

* Handy sums! Play the finger showing sums game outlined below.
* You need a small cup or bowl each, counters (or small, dry pasta pieces, Lego™ bricks or beads).
* Have fun competing, following the instructions on *Handy sums!* below.

**Try these Fun-Time Extras**

* Find ten items and line them up.
* Take some in one hand and the rest in the other.
* Put both hands behind your back. Ask your child to choose one.
* Show them how many are in that hand.
* They have to say how many are in the other hand.
* Repeat.

Handy sums

You need a cup or bowl plus counters (or small, dry pasta pieces, Lego bricks or beads).

**What to do**

*You have a cup each. Place the counters in the middle of the table.*

* Both of you put one hand behind your back. Say: ready, steady, go!
* Then, at ‘Go!’ you both bring that hand out with some fingers standing up and some or none folded down.
* Agree the sum. Write it down. Then work out the total.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  | So one of you might show 4 fingers  The other person might show 3 fingers  *The sum is 4 + 3 = 7* |  |
|  |  |  |
|  | Or one of you might show 1 finger  The other person might show 5 fingers  *The sum is 1 + 5 = 6* |  |

* Repeat this, but this time ***start competing.***
* Once the hands are shown, one person has to say the total as quickly as they can.
* The first person to say the total, takes that number of counters and puts them in their cup.
* Repeat six times. Who has the most counters in the end?