Outdoor Area

Birth to 3

Maths Activity Cards

Diagram

Description automatically generatedA picture containing text, bird

Description automatically generatedA picture containing text, indoor

Description automatically generated

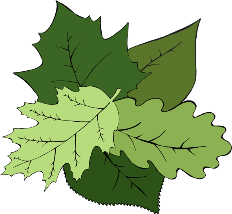
These activity cards provide ideas to encourage and facilitate mathematical development in the outdoor area. They can be used as a planning tool as well as at the moment of the activity.

This pack is aimed at the Birth to 3 age group. The descriptions are intended for the adult to read, with the bright colourful images there to provide visual reminders for the child where appropriate.

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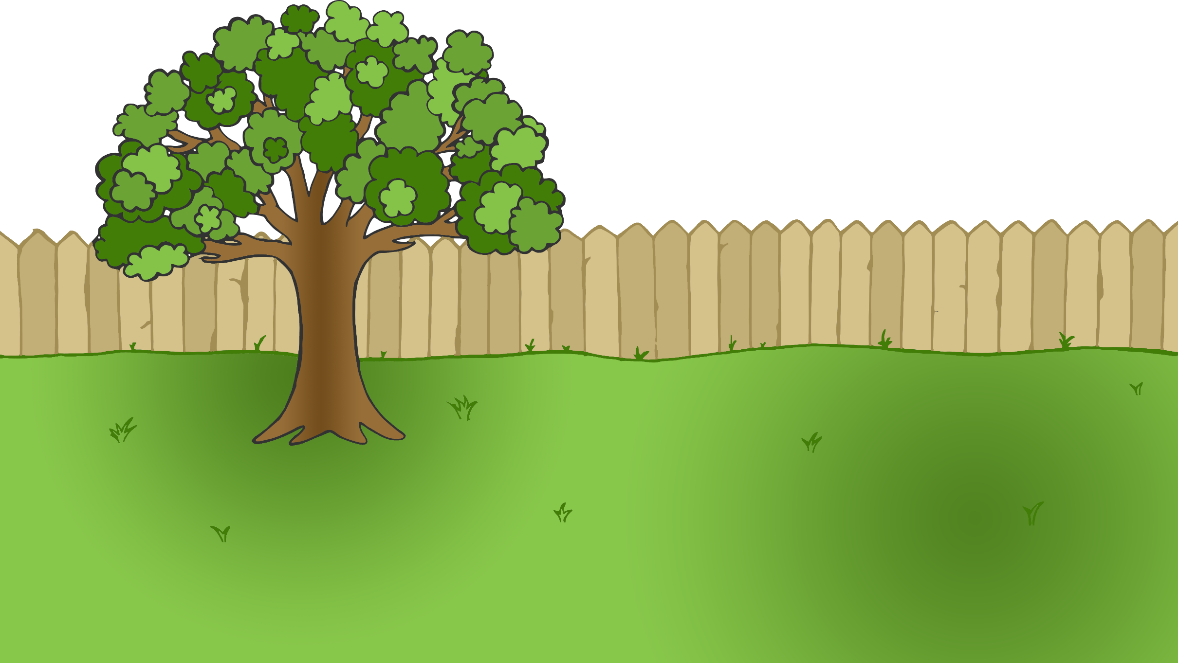
Birth to 3



Outdoor Area

Maths Activity Cards

Sing finger rhymes with numbers such as…

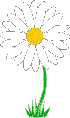
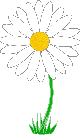


Round and round the garden,

like a teddy bear,

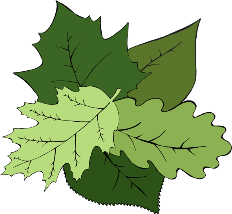
one step, two step,

tickle you under there!



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Birth to 3



Outdoor Area

Maths Activity Cards

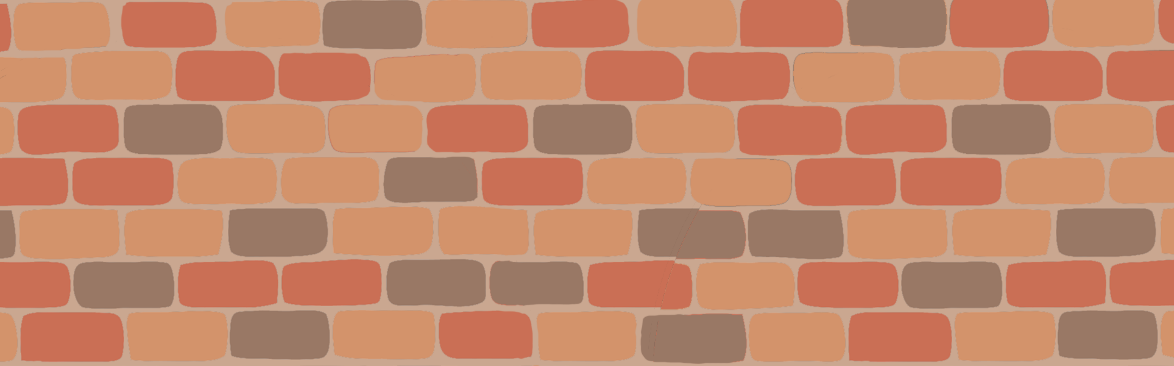
Sing finger rhymes which demonstrate changes in a group of up to three items such as…

Two little dicky birds sitting on a wall

One named Peter, one named Paul

Fly away, Peter, fly away, Paul

Come back, Peter, come back, Paul



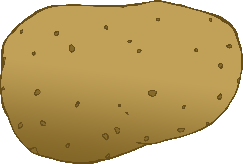
A picture containing plant

Description automatically generatedA picture containing plant

Description automatically generatedA picture containing cup, strainer, coffee, kitchenware

Description automatically generatedA picture containing indoor, tableware, coffee cup

Description automatically generatedA picture containing tableware, dark

Description automatically generatedA picture containing corn, food

Description automatically generatedA close-up of a leaf

Description automatically generated with low confidenceA close-up of a ball

Description automatically generated with low confidenceIcon

Description automatically generatedShape

Description automatically generated with medium confidenceIcon

Description automatically generatedIcon

Description automatically generated with low confidence A close up of a leaf

Description automatically generatedA close up of a leaf

Description automatically generatedA close up of a leaf

Description automatically generatedA close up of a leaf

Description automatically generatedA yellow flower with a bee on it

Description automatically generated with medium confidenceA yellow flower with a bee on it

Description automatically generated with medium confidenceA yellow flower with a bee on it

Description automatically generated with medium confidenceA picture containing white, light

Description automatically generatedShape, circle

Description automatically generatedA picture containing white, light

Description automatically generatedA picture containing plant

Description automatically generatedA picture containing plant

Description automatically generatedA picture containing text

Description automatically generatedA picture containing plant

Description automatically generatedA picture containing plant

Description automatically generated

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Birth to 3

Outdoor Area

Maths Activity Cards

Make available objects to put in and out of others, for example a cooking theme…

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Birth to 3

Outdoor Area

Maths Activity Cards

Encourage babies and young toddlers to play with cups…

* Encourage babies and young toddlers to play freely with objects.
* When appropriate, sensitively join in and comment.
* Nesting theme (putting one inside another and out again).
* Hiding one “Where has it gone?”
* Stacking them in a tower.
* Lining them up.

Offer repeated experiences with the counting sequence in meaningful and varied context, e.g. counting objects outdoors…

Encourage the development of counting-like behaviour, e.g. putting on a coat…

* When putting a child’s coat on to go into outdoor area cheerfully say “1” and then “2” as each arm goes through.
* Count the buttons as they are fastened in a sing song like voice.

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Birth to 3

Outdoor Area

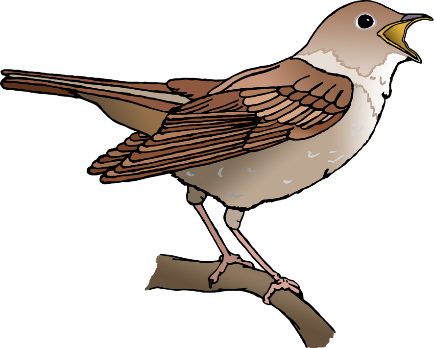
Maths Activity Cards

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Birth to 3

Outdoor Area

Maths Activity Cards

A picture containing text

Description automatically generatedA red car with black wheels

Description automatically generated with low confidenceA close-up of a compass

Description automatically generated with low confidenceA pair of white shoes

Description automatically generated with low confidenceA person wearing a garment

Description automatically generated with low confidenceA picture containing plant

Description automatically generatedA picture containing plant

Description automatically generated

Cars going past

Dog barks

Bird tweets

Steps

Jumps

Claps

Offer repeated experiences with the counting sequence in meaningful and varied context, e.g. counting sounds…

Offer repeated experiences with the counting sequence in meaningful and varied context, e.g. counting actions…

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Birth to 3

Outdoor Area

Maths Activity Cards

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Birth to 3

Outdoor Area

Maths Activity Cards

A close-up of a rocket

Description automatically generated with medium confidenceA close-up of a rocket

Description automatically generated with medium confidenceA close-up of a rocket

Description automatically generated with medium confidenceA close-up of a rocket

Description automatically generated with medium confidenceA white flower with a yellow center

Description automatically generated with medium confidenceA white flower with a yellow center

Description automatically generated with medium confidenceA close-up of a rocket

Description automatically generated with medium confidenceA close-up of a rocket

Description automatically generated with medium confidenceA white flower with a yellow center

Description automatically generated with medium confidenceA white flower with a yellow center

Description automatically generated with medium confidenceA white flower with a yellow center

Description automatically generated with medium confidenceA close-up of a rocket

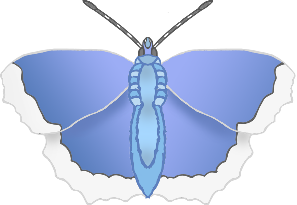
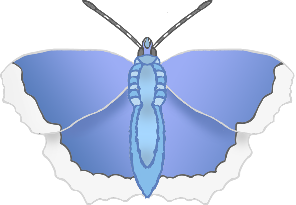
Description automatically generated with medium confidenceA close-up of a rocket

Description automatically generated with medium confidenceA picture containing white, light

Description automatically generatedShape, circle

Description automatically generatedA picture containing white, light

Description automatically generatedShape, circle

Description automatically generatedA picture containing plant

Description automatically generatedA picture containing plant

Description automatically generated

3

4

2

1

* Move an object to one side once they have counted it.
* (If children are saying one number word for each object, it is not always necessary to correct them if they skip a number. Learning to count accurately takes a long time and repeated experience. Confidence is important.)

Help children to match their counting words with objects e.g. count objects which can be moved in the outdoor area such as stones, sticks, small world characters, bricks…

Compare amounts and draw attention to change in amounts in your outdoor area using words such as ‘lots’, ‘more’ or ‘same’…

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Birth to 3

Outdoor Area

Maths Activity Cards

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Birth to 3

Outdoor Area

Maths Activity Cards

Shape

Description automatically generatedShape, rectangle

Description automatically generatedBackground pattern

Description automatically generatedShape

Description automatically generatedShape

Description automatically generatedIcon

Description automatically generatedA picture containing vector graphics

Description automatically generatedShape, rectangle

Description automatically generatedA picture containing text

Description automatically generatedA picture containing plant

Description automatically generatedA close-up of a toy

Description automatically generated with low confidenceA picture containing plant

Description automatically generatedA picture containing plant

Description automatically generated

* Use spatial words like ‘on top of’, ‘up’, ‘down’ and ‘through’.

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Birth to 3

Outdoor Area

Maths Activity Cards

Provide opportunities for children to climb, tunnel and hide…

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Birth to 3

Outdoor Area

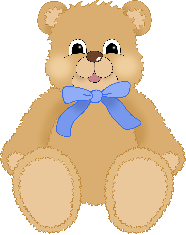
Maths Activity Cards

Build with a range of resources, e.g. provide blocks or boxes for children to play freely with…

A close-up of a rocket

Description automatically generated with medium confidenceA close-up of a rocket

Description automatically generated with medium confidenceA close-up of a rocket

Description automatically generated with medium confidenceIcon

Description automatically generatedIcon

Description automatically generatedShape, circle

Description automatically generatedA picture containing white, light

Description automatically generatedA picture containing white, light

Description automatically generatedIcon

Description automatically generated with low confidenceA picture containing plant

Description automatically generatedA picture containing plant

Description automatically generated

* Why not place the objects in order? e.g. dolls in height order, sticks in length order.

Compare heights and lengths of objects in the outdoor area using language such as tall/taller/long/longer/short/shorter and high/low.…

* Why not place the small objects such as stones, teddies, cups, and bowls in one pile and big objects in another?

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Birth to 3

Outdoor Area

Maths Activity Cards

Compare sizes of objects in the outdoor area using language such as big/bigger/little/small/smaller…

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Birth to 3

Outdoor Area

Maths Activity Cards

A green leaf with a black background

Description automatically generated with low confidenceA blue and yellow flower

Description automatically generated with low confidenceA picture containing outdoor object

Description automatically generatedA close-up of a fruit

Description automatically generated with low confidenceA white flower with a yellow center

Description automatically generated with medium confidenceA close up of a leaf

Description automatically generatedA picture containing white, light

Description automatically generatedA close up of a leaf

Description automatically generatedA close up of a leaf

Description automatically generatedA picture containing white, light

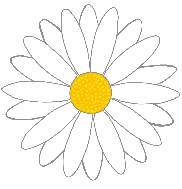
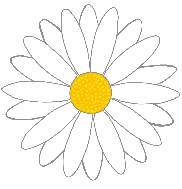
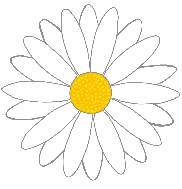
Description automatically generatedA picture containing white, light

Description automatically generatedA picture containing plant

Description automatically generatedA picture containing plant

Description automatically generated

* Use words such as ‘repeated’ and ‘the same’.
* Look closely at patterns on leaves, flowers, snail shells, spider webs, raindrops, rings on a tree stump, pinecones, pavement or brick work, tiles, wooden planks on outdoor furniture, insides of fruit and vegetables, shells.
* Use words such as ‘repeated’ and ‘the same’.



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Birth to 3

Outdoor Area

Maths Activity Cards

Provide opportunities for children to notice patterns in the outdoor area…

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Birth to 3

Outdoor Area

Maths Activity Cards

Provide opportunities for children to arrange natural objects in the outdoor area into repeating patterns…