**What to do**

*IMPORTANT Parent or Carer –*

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

**1. Counting practice**

* + Take a cup and some coins. These must be identical but it doesn’t matter what denomination they are. You need about ten.
  + Ask your child to sit facing away from you and the cup.
  + One at a time, drop coins into the cup.
  + The child has to listen and count.
  + When you stop, they must tell you how many coins are in the cup. (This is harder than it sounds!)
  + Repeat several times. Can they be correct three times in a row?

Extension

* Drop coins into the cup as they count, eyes shut! Then, without showing them how many in the cup, show them that you are taking one out.
* How many now?

**2. Working together**

* Play *Finger Sums*
  + You need three number cards: 6, 7 and 8
  + Make these numbers using fingers on both hands as shown on *Finger Sums* below.

**Try these Fun-Time Extras**

* Search for examples of 6 around your home. E.g. 6 eggs in a box, number 6 on the clock face, 6 mugs on the draining board… etc.
* Look for 7s. Are these harder to find?
* Make 7 fingers of toast and eat them with honey!

Finger sums

You need number cards 6, 7 and 8, felt tips and paper

**What to do**

* Place the **6** card in the middle of the table.
* Ask the child to show you 6 fingers standing up and the rest folded down.
* Look at how the fingers are distributed across their two hands. E.g.

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 2 and | 4 | or | 3 and 3 |  |

* Together say the addition – two and four make six
* Record this on paper: 2 = 4 = 6
* Fold down two fingers and say the subtraction: 6 take away 3 leaves 3
* Record this: 6 – 2 = 4
* Ask the child to show a different arrangement of six fingers. E.g. 3 and 3
* Say this together and record it. 3 + 3 = 6
* Fold down 3 fingers and say the subtraction: 6 – 3 = 3
* How many different ways can you do this for 6?

Repeat this starting with the 7 card.

How many ways do you think there will be of making 7 using fingers?

Challenge – how many ways of making 8? Predict first….