**What to do**

*IMPORTANT Parent or Carer –*

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

**1. Counting practice**

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* Lay cards with numbers on in a line 1 to 20.
  + Ask your child to turn around or else blindfold them!
  + Remove one number but rearrange the rest so no gap is to be seen.
  + Ask the child to count along the line and to tell you when they think a number is missing. Can they identify the place it should go?
  + Ask them to place a finger between the two numbers where they think the missing number belongs.
  + Show the number you stole! Are they correct?
  + Repeat, taking a different number.

Extension

* Lay the cards so the line counts backwards from 20 to 1. This makes it harder!

**2. Working together**

* Play *Higher / Lower*
  + You need number cards 1 to 12 or 1 to 20 depending on how good your child is at recognising numbers above 10.
  + Play the game outlined on *Higher /Lower* below.

**Try these Fun-Time Extras**

* Watch Number Zoo here <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=snUGqgAmz-c> – you have to skip the ads sometimes.
* Make your own number zoo using your toys.

Higher / Lower

You need number cards 1 to 12 and a pile of cubes or counters or raisins!

*It can be 1 to 10 or 1 to 20 depending on how confident you child is with numbers above 10.*

**How to play**

* Shuffle the cards and place them in a pile face down.
* Take a card off the top. Place it face up where you and the child can both see it. Say the number.
* Explain that you are now going to turn over another card.
* Before you do this, the child must say if they think the number you turn over will be higher or lower than the card you are both looking at.
* Once they have guessed, you turn over the next card.

E.g. *Isla guesses ‘higher’*

7

4

*Mum turns over this:*

* Discuss whether the card turned over is as they said it would be.

E.g. *Isla guessed ‘higher’, and 7 is* ***higher*** *than 4. So Isla was right!*

* If the child is right, they get a cube. If they are wrong, Mum gets a cube.
* Put both cards under the pile, face down. Take another card from the top and place it face up in the middle. Agree what number it is.
* Explain that you are about to turn over another card. Does the child want to guess ‘higher’ or ‘lower’ this time? Who gets a cube?
* Keep playing like this until one person has collected four cubes.