



NUMBERS PLAY MAT

INSTRUCTIONS



1 INTRODUCTION

The Numbers Play Mat has a hundred fields which children can do their sums on with their hands and feet. They can experience how numbers are related to one another in fun play situations using their whole body. You can start using the Numbers Play Mat as soon as children are ready for their first sums over ten. The mat is also really useful for older children to actively practise their tables.

2 HOW TO PLAY

At the top and bottom of the mat, you can see the signs +, -, x, and :
Make a sum by putting your left hand on a number. Then put your right hand on a sign. Then your left foot on another number. You have just made a sum! But what should the answer be? Put your right foot on the right number.

3 THE PLAYING CARDS

Playing with the Numbers Play Mat is fun. Children quickly start to think up challenges for each other. We have developed sum cards in order to support them step by step. Download and print them for free at www.numbersplaymat.com.

There are 4 categories: +, -, x, and :

The number of stars tells you the level per category. So a + card with 1 star is easier than a + card with 3 stars. Start with cards from below the child's level. This way you can first concentrate on how it works.

There is also an empty card per category. You can write sums on it yourself or use it to let the children make up sums for each other!

EXPLANATION:

Playing alone:

-  Pick a playing card.
-  Look at the sum.
-  Think of the answer.
-  Do the sum on the mat:
 -  Put your hands and left foot on the right numbers.
 -  Then put your right foot on the answer.

Playing with 2 of more children:

-  Player number 1 picks a playing card.
-  And looks at the sum.
-  Both think of the answer without saying anything.
-  Player number 2 does the sum on the mat:
 -  Put your hands and left foot on the right numbers.
 -  And then your right foot on the answer.
 -  Did you both get the same answer?

4 VARIATIONS

Dice game

Throw a dice. Put your left foot on the number on the dice. Throw again. Add the new number to the number under your left foot. Put your right foot on the answer. Throw again and go on for as long as you can!

Step by step...

Allowing for the child's level, start at a particular number with your left foot. And then make steps of the same number. For example: put your left foot on the 9. Add 5 to and then put your left foot down on it. Go on for as long as you can! You can, of course, also count back in steps from a large number.

You can also let children take steps to practice their tables. For the 4 times table, the child starts with 4 and adds 4 each time.

Own row of sums

Does a child find it hard to sit still during sums? Let them do their row of sums from the book on the mat first!

Free play

It's great fun to play with the Numbers Play Mat. Being active with numbers and sums with others will inspire children to think of challenges for themselves. So let them play freely with it from time to time. Or ask them to prepare a difficult assignment to show to the other children.



$$5 + 3 = ?$$

$$3 \times 4 = ?$$

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