



Maths Dice Games for Young Children

These simple games are fun because everyone loves rolling dice. Bear in mind that, although a variety of dice of different colours may be fun; this may be distracting for some children, particularly in the early years. Leave the dice out for impromptu games and to encourage practice. Make up your own games and rules and adjust them to match the age and abilities of the players. All of these games use simple number bonds and soon the players will be adding with greater speed and not needing to count dots aloud.

Penny-Dice Game – For 2 or more players

Materials:

10 pennies for each player

1 die

How to Play:

Partners pool their pennies to make 20. They take turns rolling the die and picking up as many pennies as the number on the die. To pick up the last pennies, the number on the die must match the number of pennies remaining.

The game ends when the last pennies have been picked up. The child with the most pennies wins the round.

Add 'em up! - For 2 or more players

Materials:

Several standard spot dice

How to Play:

Start with two dice and have the players shake and roll the dice. Add the number of dots mentally. One player gets to throw the dice and give answers until he misses and then the play moves to the next player.

When this gets too easy, try adding more dice.

Subtract the dots! – For 2 or more players

Materials:

At least 3 standard dice

How to Play:

Start by throwing two of the dice. Now roll the third. Subtract mentally the second number from the first.

Increase the difficulty by progressing from three dice to three and one, then three and two, then four and two, etc.