



COUNTING to Build Brains

Young children are learning important emerging math skills. Help them to build awareness of numbers in the world around them. Here's how to turn everyday moments into Brain Building moments, too!



Show that numbers are a part of everyday life.

- **Count, write numbers and problem solve** as you do everyday things or run errands.
- **Notice numbers when you see them** – in addresses, the prices in a store or on a keyboard or phone.
- **Ask questions like**, “If I have two apples, do I have more than someone with six apples?”



Count out loud together.

- **Post a number chart**, just as you would the alphabet.
- **Point to it when numbers come up in conversation.** Follow the line of numbers in order, naming each one.

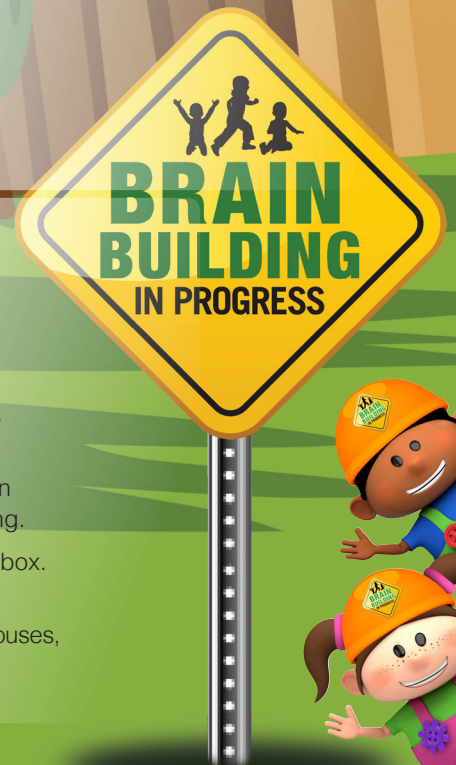
Brain Building by the Numbers!

In the car: Count the number of times you see signs or objects. Start counting when you enter a tunnel to see how many numbers it takes to reach the end. Read the numbers on signs out loud.

At a grocery store: Count the number of pieces of fruit you are buying as you put them in the bag. Have your “helper” unload the cart and count how many items you are purchasing.

At the playground: Count as you push the swing. Draw numbers in the sand in the sandbox. Ask questions like, “How many children are playing on the slide?”

On a walk: How many steps does it take to get from here to there? Find the numbers on houses, or count how many cars or trees you see.



Tell us how you used these ideas or share some of your own at:
[/BrainBuildingInProgress](https://www.facebook.com/BrainBuildingInProgress)

BrainBuildingInProgress.org



Department of
Early Education and Care

