

## **Number Sense Activities for Junior Infants**

Your child should be able to count to 5 and be able to recognise the numerals. He/she should be working to be able to instantly recognise or subitise numbers up to 5. This means that if you put 3 sweets on the table your child should know without having to count that there are 3 sweets on the table. Keep putting out different amounts of sweets on the table and give your child plenty opportunity to recognise number groups and what they look like. This takes a lot of time and practice to master but doing an activity like this at home every day would be of huge benefit to your child.



### **LEGO Counting**

You can write the numbers 1-5 out on paper and have your child put the correct amount of LEGO pieces next to the number like in the picture below. If you do not have LEGO you could use pasta shells or marbles whatever you have at home. Do this every day and mix up the order of numbers too.



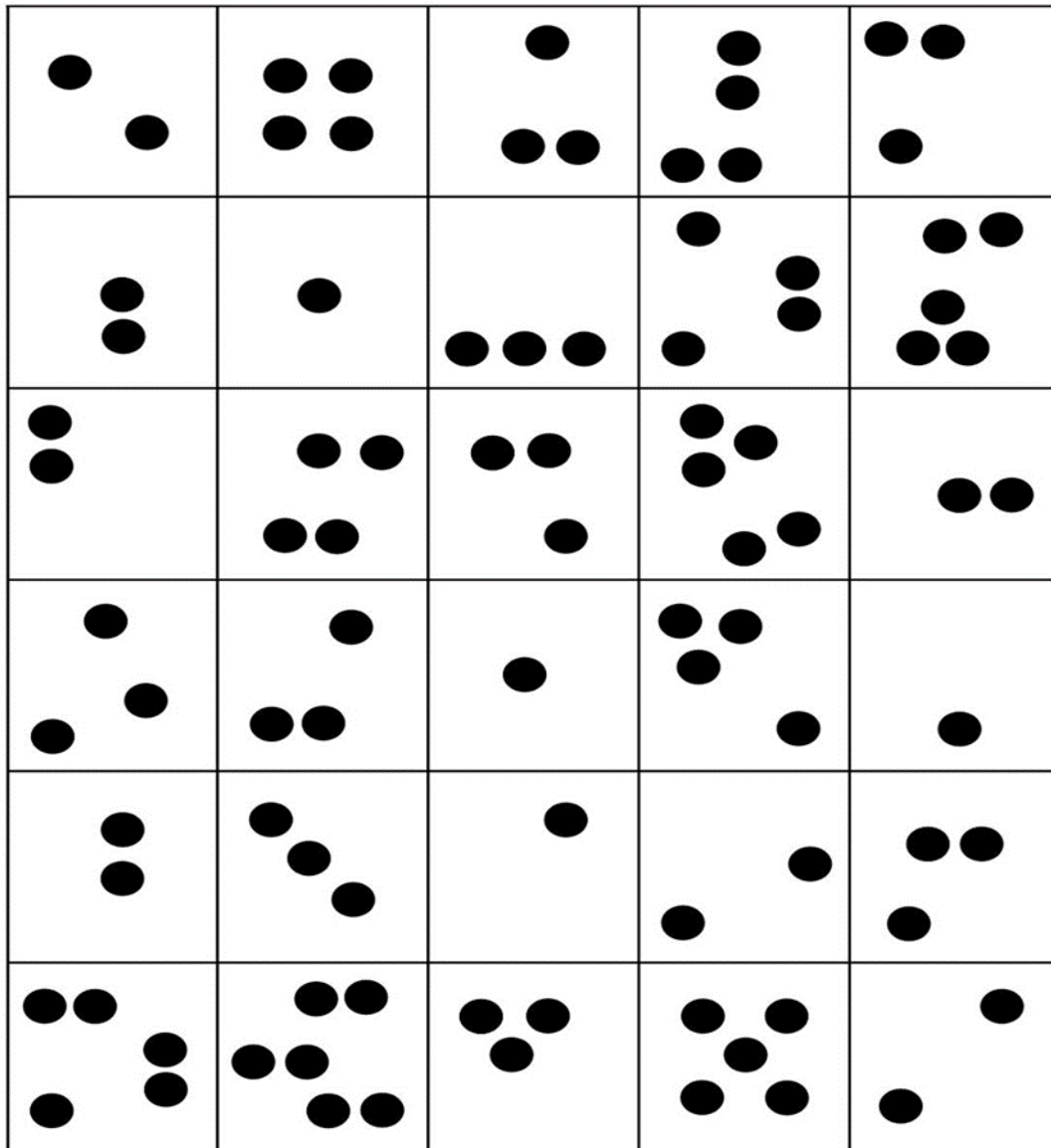
### **Make a Number Tower**

You will need: a number mat (or numbers written out on a sheet of paper) and blocks/LEGO  
Put the numbers out of the table/the floor and allow your child to make towers with the correct number of blocks. Mix the numbers up to challenge your child.



**Subitising Game:** Here are numbers 1-6 displayed on this sheet. See if your child can instantly recognise these groups of dots without having to count. Lots of daily practice helps with this.

## Subitising Game



[www.earlyyearsfun.blogspot.com](http://www.earlyyearsfun.blogspot.com)

### Paper Plate Pizza

You will need, 2 paper plates, a red marker (or red dot stickers) and a scissors.

Cut one paper plates into pizza slices. The good thing about this activity is that you can make 5 pizza slices to practice the numbers 1-5 or just 3 pizza slices if you want to start with a small amount of numbers.

Then depending on how many pizza slices you cut, make the same amount of pizza slices on the other paper plate using the black marker (this will be the whole pizza). Then write a number on each slice on the paper plate that is not cut. (see picture). On the paper plate that you cut into pieces, use the red dot stickers and add them to each slice to match one of the numbers on the whole pizza.

Allow your child to match the red dot slices to the correct number on the whole pizza. The aim is that your child can eventually do this activity quickly without having to count the dots. Plenty of practice will help with this.



### **Egg Carton Counting**

Write random numbers between 1-5 in the egg carton. Then allow your child to put the right amount of pom poms, sequins, cheerio's whatever you have in the egg carton. See picture below. This doubles up as an excellent fine motor activity. You could also write number 1-6 and use a dice. When your child rolls the dice, they have to find the number they rolled and then put in the correct number of objects into the correct hole.



## **Online games/activities to help your child develop number sense**

Number Blocks on YouTube

Click on this link for a 22-minute educational animation about the numbers 1-5

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=azftxZGEqIU&list=PL9swKX1PviEqj2z-73QH5WGZHpGcs\\_Q2](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=azftxZGEqIU&list=PL9swKX1PviEqj2z-73QH5WGZHpGcs_Q2)

Here is another one

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=k32FXPsdgIA&list=PL9swKX1PviEqj2z-73QH5WGZHpGcs\\_Q2&index=2](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=k32FXPsdgIA&list=PL9swKX1PviEqj2z-73QH5WGZHpGcs_Q2&index=2)

Top Marks- Some excellent Maths games here

<https://www.topmarks.co.uk/maths-games/5-7-years/counting>

Same/Different –Your child looks at a series of images and point out what is the same and what is different. It really gets them thinking. See link below

<https://samedifferentimages.wordpress.com/2017/09/04/quantity-to-10/>

Fuzz Bugs Maths Games: Great for practicing patterns and so much more!

[https://www.abcya.com/games/fuzz\\_bugs\\_patterns](https://www.abcya.com/games/fuzz_bugs_patterns)