

EARLY NUMERACY CALENDAR

April



<p>Excerpt from SPRING SONG by William Blake</p> <p>Spring is coming, spring is coming, Birdies, build your nest; Weave together straw and feather, Doing each your best.</p> 	<p>NUMBER OF THE MONTH</p>  <p>9</p> <p>Know why I love 9? It's one away from being 10! 9 tacos is 1 away from being 10 tacos. Find 9 things today. How many to 10?</p>	<p>CLEVER MATH</p> <p>My pet is imaginary. It breathes fire and smashes castles. What could it be? What could it NOT be?</p> 	<p>MATH STORY</p> <p>Luka has 4 pets. Some are cats and some are dogs. What combinations of pets could he have?</p> 	<p>CREATIVE MATH</p> <p>A fun way to create art is by gluing paper or other items onto your paper. It's called a collage. Collect old magazines. Tear, glue, and create a masterpiece using 9 or more pieces!</p>	<p>COUNT @ HOME</p> <p>How many plates are in the cabinet? Count carefully! Draw a picture of what you counted. How far do they go if you line them up in a row?</p>	
<p>SHAPE OF THE MONTH</p> <p>SPHERE</p>  <p>A sphere is a 3-dimensional shape that is perfectly round all the way around, like a ball. They're really fun to play with outside!</p>	<p>CONSTRUCTION ZONE</p> <p>Use play-dough to create spheres. Big ones, small ones... just be sure they are absolutely, perfectly round. What other material, besides play-dough, would make good spheres?</p>	<p>FAMILY SURVEY</p>  <p>Collect some data by asking people this question: <u>Would you prefer a cat, dog, or hedgehog as a pet?</u> What were your results, and could you draw to share your data?</p>	<p>QUICK DOTS</p>  <p>QUICK! How many dots do you see? After that quick look, revisit: How can you be sure you're right?</p>	<p>ANTS ON A LOG</p> <p>Count 9 pennies ("ants"). Hide 1 under a cup ("in their nest"). Say: I <u>see 8 ants on a log. How many are in their nest?</u> Count to check!</p>	<p>MATH IN LITERATURE</p> <p>HARRY THE DIRTY DOG</p>  <p>What happened <u>first</u>? <u>Last</u>? Dirty, dirtier, dirtiest! What's the opposite of dirty?</p> 	
<p>START WITH/ GET TO</p>  <p>Start on zero and count up to 9. Then begin on 9 and count back to zero. Mix it up: Take turns with your grown-up. You say zero, they say one, and so forth!</p>	<p>ORGANIZE & COMPARE</p> <p>Find 3 items that are heavier than your shoe. Change shoes. Do your 3 items still fit the sorting rule "heavier than this shoe"?</p>	<p>DOUBLE FIVE FRAME</p>  <p>Count the red dots in the five-frames. What's one more? One less? How many more/ less to make 5 or 10 red dots?</p>	<p>ESTIMATE!</p>  <p>How many mini marshmallows do you think you could fit in a spoon? Estimate, then try it! What if you used jumbo marshmallows? How would that change things?</p>	<p>SHAPE HUNT</p> <p>This month's shape is the sphere. Stop by the sports aisle at the store. Notice the size and colors of the spheres you find! What's your favorite? Golf balls, tennis balls, kick balls...</p>	<p>COUNT IN NATURE</p>  <p>Take the counting outside! Find:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9 raindrops <u>on</u> the window 9 flowers blooming <u>in</u> the grass 	<p>SIMON SAYS...</p>  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> move <u>slowly</u>, like a turtle move <u>quickly</u>, like a cheetah move <u>sneakily</u>, like a hunting lion
<p>SAME & DIFFERENT</p>  <p>Take a look at these items. What do they have in common? What's different?</p>	<p>THINK DISTANCE</p> <p>Find beanbags (or socks filled with rice). Throw 3 beanbags. Which one went the <u>shortest</u> distance? The <u>longest</u> distance? What is the <u>farthest</u> you can get a beanbag to go?</p>	<p>MATH @ THE STORE</p>  <p>As you shop, count nine items with green labels or packages. What's the largest green-packaged item you can find?</p>	<p>PATTERN TIME</p> <p>What comes next in this pattern of shapes?</p>  <p>Challenge: Copy this pattern with your own favorite shapes!</p>	<p>MATH HANDS</p> <p>On your fingers, show NINE. Then show NINE another way. Count to prove that either way, it's still NINE.</p>  <p>1, 2, 3, 4, 5... 6, 7, 8, 9 1, 2, 3, 4... 5, 6, 7, 8, 9</p>	<p>LET'S TALK MATH</p> <p>The meaning of numbers can change, depending on the story. What's a time when 9 might be <u>a lot</u>? (9 cats in the house!) When would 9 be <u>not a lot</u>? (9 stars in the sky.) What else?</p>	<p>RAIN, RAIN, GO AWAY!</p> <p>Rain, rain, go away. Come again another day. Little Jasmine wants to play. Rain, rain, go away!</p>  <p>What is something you can do outside, even if it's raining?</p>

Visit amsti.org for more Early Childhood resources.