



Activities for Home

Dear Families

This week in maths we are learning doubles of numbers to 5. We are learning how these help us to solve addition and subtraction facts like $3 + 3 = 6$ and $8 - 4 = 4$. We are also using these double facts to help us solve 'near double' additions like $4 + 5 = 9$. Here are some simple activities you can do at home to support your child's learning:

Show me double, show me half

You say, "Double four" and your child shows you this on their fingers (by putting up 4 on each hand) and says, "Eight!" Then you say "Halve it," and move your child's hands apart. Say, "Double four is eight," and bring your child's hands together again, then "Half of eight is four," and move their hands apart again. Get them to join in with you as you say it. Then repeat for doubles of other numbers to 5.

What's in my hand?

You will need 10 small items, such as pieces of dried pasta. Take 2, 4, 6, 8 or 10, and split them evenly between your two closed hands (so if you take 8, put 4 in each hand). Tell your child the number of pieces you have in each hand and ask them how many you have in total. Reinforce their learning with your language, saying things like, "Yes, that's right, 4 plus 4 is 8." On other occasions tell your child the total number you have, and they have to work out how many in each hand by halving that number.

Hit the double, hit the half

Lay out the digit activity cards 1 to 10 face up. Say a number between 1 and 5. Your child has to say its double and hit that digit card as quickly as they can. Reinforce with language such as "That's right, double 2 is 4. 2 plus 2 is 4." Then, say an even number between 2 and 10. Your child has to say the half and hit that digit card as quickly as they can. Reinforce the learning with your language, "That's right, half of 8 is 4. 8 minus 4 is 4." As your child gets more confident ask them to describe the relationship.

Matching pairs

You will need either the digit cards, or the tens frame activity cards, laid out face down. Turn two over. Have you got a double and half matching pair, such as 5 and 10? If so keep the cards and take another pair. If not, it is your partner's turn. Use language similar to that in the activity above to reinforce the doubles and halves relationship

Near doubles

Lay out a 'double' number of small items (such as toy cars/pieces of dried pasta) in two groups, for example, in 2 groups of 4. Say "4 and 4 is 8." Then add one item to one of the groups... "So 4 and 5 is ____." Do the same for one less "4 and 4 is 8." Then remove one from one of the groups... "So 4 and 3 is ____." The aim is to help your child see that if they know their doubles, they can also add near doubles. As your child grows in confidence, mix up how you do the activity. They could choose a double for you to make a near double from, or they could do both the double and near double.

Talking Tip

There are many games you can play to reinforce learning of doubles, halves and near doubles.. Do not feel restricted to these ones - feel free to make up your own, bringing the ideas into your everyday life and routines...