

Simple Maths Games using Playing Cards

1. Memory Match:

Spread all the cards face down on the table.

Take it in turns to turn over 2 cards for everyone to see and say the numbers on the cards.

The idea is to try to find a matching pair. If the cards don't match, leave them in the same place but turn them over again.

If you do turn over a matching pair, keep those cards in your pile and have another go. Your turn ends if you turn over 2 cards that don't match.

The winner is the person with the most sets of matching cards at the end – obviously they have the best memory!

2. Add 2 cards:

2 cards are given to each player which they add together. Whoever's total is the greatest gets to keep all the cards from that round.

Watch out for the 4 stages in your child's development of addition;

1. Counting all: e.g. the child counts all the diamonds on the first card and all the spades on the second card to come up with the total.

2. Counting on from the first number: the child holds the first number in their head and counts on the second number. (They can physically do this by holding one card up to their forehead and then adding on the second one).

3. Counting on from the larger number: the child identifies the larger number and then adds on the smaller number.

4. Using known addition facts: knowing doubles off by heart, knowing near doubles (e.g. if $4 + 4 = 8$, then $4 + 5 = 9$).