



SAINT JOHN'S

Reception – Spring 1

This term your child will be learning about:

Alive In 5

Show the children 3 fingers – ask them how many fingers?

Can they hold up 3?

Can they hold up more than 3 fingers?

Is there more than one way to do this?

Can they hold up fewer than 3 fingers?

How many do they have?



Provide cubes in 2 different colours.

Ask the children to build a tower of 5.

Compare the towers.

What is the same? What is different?

How many different towers can you build?

What if you make towers of 4 cubes?



Play Bunny Ears



Using 2 hands to be the ears, how many ways can you show 4 or 5 fingers? Can you see what number I have made?

Can you make ears the same as mine?

Can you make the same number in a different way?

How many different ways can we find?

Children will continue to develop the understanding that all numbers are made up of smaller numbers.

Allow them to explore and notice the different compositions of 4 and 5. For example 5 can be composed of 1 and 1 and 3 or 2 and 3 or 1 and 4.



Encourage them to subitise (instantly recognise these small quantities without counting).

Encourage them to notice how numbers can be composed of 2 parts or more than 2 parts.



Small World

As the children play, prompt them to notice where they see 0

E.g. Could we park 0 cars in this car park?

If there are 5 horses and 2 fields, how many horses could be in each field?

If all 5 monkeys have fallen off the bed, how many are left on the bed?

Other Resources

A Squash and a Squeeze – Julia Donaldson

Room on the Broom – Julia Donaldson



One Elephant Came Out to Play

5 Little Monkeys Swinging in a Tree

Vocabulary

- zero
- more than
- fewer than
- compare
- what is different?
- what is the same?