

Ten Frame Games

These games are designed to help your child become familiar with ten frames and help to build their number sense. They are intended to be fun, so if you notice your child becoming disinterested or frustrated it's best to pause and play again later!

Fill the Frame! Give each child a ten frame and a bowl of small objects like buttons, blocks, or crackers--choose something that is exciting for them! Call out numbers 1-10 and have them fill their frame with that many items. Start with smaller numbers for younger children. If playing one on one with your child, give them an opportunity to be the "caller" and you be the one to fill the ten frame!

Ten Frame Memory Show a filled ten frame for 3 seconds, then hide it. Children try to recreate what they saw on their own frame. Start with simple patterns like all items on the top row, then progress to mixed arrangements.

Roll and Fill Use a large foam die. Children take turns rolling and adding that many objects to a shared ten frame. The goal is working together to fill it completely. You can decide if you will need to roll the exact number to fill it or if you can go past ten with your final roll.

Story Time Frames Create simple stories that go with ten frame activities. "Five little ducks went swimming (place 5 objects), then 3 more joined them (add 3 more). How many ducks are swimming now?"

What's Missing? Fill a ten frame with objects, let children look at it, then cover it with a cloth and secretly remove some items. Uncover and ask "How many are there now?" and "How many are missing?" This builds number sense and subtraction concepts naturally.

Ten Frame Scavenger Hunt Play a few different versions of this game using our filled ten frames and numeral cards.

