

# What you say counts!

## When talking to a child about maths

Think twice  
before you say  
'I can't do maths'



Llywodraeth Cymru  
Welsh Government

[www.cymru.gov.uk](http://www.cymru.gov.uk)

Supporting the children in your life to get off to the best possible start with maths is as easy as **1, 2, 3**. Explore numbers together through enjoyable activities!

### Tips to count on for ages 3 - 5



- Sing-alongs and rhymes are enjoyable ways for children to become comfortable with numbers. Start with 'Ten Green Bottles' or 'One, Two, Buckle My Shoe'.

**Songs:** [A-Z counting songs](#)



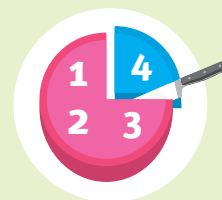
- Play games involving numbers, such as bingo, dice and card games. Favourites like Dominoes or Snakes and Ladders can help with counting forwards and backwards.

**Games:** [Want to play some games?](#)



### Tips to count on for ages 7 - 11

- Talking about your day counts, maths is all around you! You can spot things at home and out and about to talk about.
- Count at home - how many items in the living room are square or triangular? How many sides are there? How many stairs are there? Count whenever you can!
- Count in the kitchen by following a recipe together: "We need two scoops of flour, and one cherry for each cake".



Share your own maths tips, resources and experiences at [www.facebook.com/whatyousaycounts](https://www.facebook.com/whatyousaycounts)



**Inspiration for parents** - We live in a world of numbers. Whatever you believe your own maths skills to be, it's important to open your child's eyes to the fun world of numbers that surrounds them.



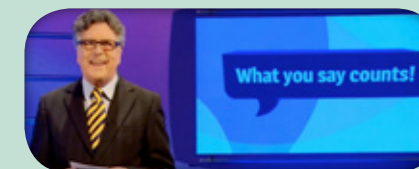
**Pori Drwy Stori** a bilingual programme for Reception-aged children, full of maths activities.



**Oxford Owl** the award-winning free website with **250 FREE** tablet-friendly eBooks and activities to support children.



**BBC Bitesize** offers a range of activities for children of all ages and abilities including GCSE revision tips.



What you say counts, [click here](#) to discover how vital it is to be positive about maths.