Do-Anytime Activities for Grade 1

These activities are easy and fun to do with your child at home, and they will reinforce the skills and concepts your child is learning in school.

Unit 1	• Have your child help create a number line (0–15) outside with sidewalk chalk. Call out a number and have your child jump on that number. Then, make up directions and questions such as "Hop back (or forward) two spaces. What is the new number?" Take turns giving directions. If you don't have chalk, use paper, crayons, and fingers. • Divide a deck of cards evenly between you and your child and put the cards facedown. For each turn, players flip their top card faceup and decide who has the larger number. That player collects both cards. Continue playing until the deck has been used. Play a second round, but have the player with the smaller number take both cards. Assign points to Aces, Kings, Queens, and Jacks or remove them.
Unit 2	• Give your child an addition problem with two numbers smaller than 10, such as $4 + 5$. Then give a related addition problem, this time with the two numbers in a different order ($5 + 4$). Ask if he or she notices anything about the two problems. Ask your child to give you similar addition problems. • Count groups of objects, such as toys, books, or blocks, together and then write numerals to represent the numbers of objects using various tools and materials: pens, markers, crayons, paint, and sand. Try forming numerals using cotton balls, craft sticks, toothpicks, or rocks.
Unit 3	• Tell parts-and-totals number stories in which you have to add the parts to find the total. For example, "There are 2 white socks and 4 black socks. How many socks do I have all together?" Solve problems in which you know the total and one part and have to find the other part: "There were 10 crackers on this plate. Now, there are 5 crackers on the plate. How many crackers did we eat?" • Choose three small objects, such as shoes, pencils, books, or toys, and compare their lengths. Ask your child which object is the longest and which is the shortest.
Unit 4	• Label each cup of an egg carton with the numbers 0–11. Put two pennies in the carton, close the lid, and shake it up. Using the numbers of the two cups the pennies landed in, make up and solve addition and subtraction problems. Add a third penny and make up addition problems with three addends. Look for doubles and numbers that add up to 10. • Have your child measure three different objects in the house using multiple paper clips, pencils, or other same-size objects. Before measuring, estimate how many of the same-size object it will take to cover the object you are measuring, then compare the estimate with the actual number. Ask your child to place the three objects in order by length.

Unit 5	• Tell your child you are thinking of a number. Give the number of tens and the number of ones in the number and ask your child to guess the number. For example, "I am thinking of a number. It has 2 tens and 3 ones." The number is 23. Invite your child to think of a 2-digit number and to give you the number of tens and ones in the number so you can guess the number. • Take turns giving each other true and false number sentences with addition and subtraction facts and saying whether the number sentences are true or false.
Unit 6	• Say a 2-digit number. Have your child identify the value of the digit in each place. For example, in the number 52, the value of the 5 is 5 tens, or 50, and the value of the 2 is 2 ones, or 2. • Choose a time "on the hour" (7:00, 2:00) and help your child set an analog clock or watch to that time. Also, ask your child read an analog clock when it has reached a time on the hour.
Unit 7	• Use Fact Triangles to practice addition by covering the sum (the number by the dot). Practice subtraction by covering one of the other numbers. • Ask what the difference is between two numbers and have your child tell you how they can "think addition" to find the difference. For example, "What is the difference between 7 and 5? Think addition." Your child may say, "What can I add to 5 to get 7?" or "5 plus what number is 7?" (2) Take turns giving pairs of numbers and finding the difference between them using addition.
Unit 8	• Practice mentally finding 10 more or 10 less than a 2-digit number. For example, "What is 10 more than 42?" (52) or "What is 10 less than 86?" (76). Take turns with your child answering 10-more and 10-less questions. • Help your child use paper and scissors to make various shapes such as a rhombus, hexagon, trapezoid, pentagon, square, or circle. Take turns holding up each shape, naming it, and telling what makes that shape different from the other shapes. After naming all of the shapes, make a design. Together, use a crayon, marker, or pencil to partition each shape into two or four equal shares. Ask your child to name the shares, such as $\frac{1}{2}$ or $\frac{1}{4}$.
Unit 9	• Create and solve number stories that involve two or three items. For example, "I want to buy a cheese stick for 45 cents and a juice box for 85 cents. How much money do I need?" ($1.30) Explain your solution strategies to each other. • With your child, cut or break food, such as pizza, sandwiches, crackers, or pies, into two equal shares and then into four equal shares. Describe the shares, using words like *halves* and *quarters*. Talk about the how the size of the shares change as you make more shares.