



Tic Tac Toe

Playing with Rocks

Beginner: Collect 10 rocks, and label them from 1-10. Use them to play tic tac toe and say the number of each rock as you place it.

[Tip]: Say “The last two rocks I put down had the numbers 1 and 6.”

Intermediate: Collect 20 rocks, and label them from 1-20. Use them to play tic tac toe and say the number of each rock as you place it, then add them together.

[Tip]: “The last two rocks I put down had the numbers 14 and 9. 14 plus 9 is 23.”

Experienced: Collect 100 rocks, and label them from 1-100. Use them to play tic tac toe and say the number of each rock as you place it, then add them together.

[Tip]: “The last two rocks I put down had the numbers 50 and 35. 50 plus 35 is 85.”

[Brief] Why? Playing with rocks allows children to use their fingers, which helps develop math skills.

[Detailed] Why? Combining an interactive math activity with fun helps children to quickly recognize numbers and practice their mental addition skills.

References: Ollivier, F., Noël, Y., Legrand, A., & Bonneton-Botté, N. (2020). A teacher-implemented intervention program to promote finger use in numerical tasks. *European Journal of Psychology of Education - EJPE* (Springer Science & Business Media B.V.), 35(3), 589–606. <https://doi-org.uwinnipeg.idm.oclc.org/10.1007/s10212-019-00441-9>

Caregiver Handbook: 100 Chart, Numeracy Learning Games