

READY! for Kindergarten®

Is it More or Less?



Hello READY! Parents & Caregivers, Children learn basic math concepts through everyday activities. As a parent or caregiver, you can help develop these skills by talking and playing with a child using more/less concepts.

Scientists report that during the years from birth to 3, a child's brain easily absorbs or "imprints" visual information. When provided with opportunities, children seem to learn effortlessly. A young child's brain has a unique ability to

recognize qualities, such as dots on the READY! game board cards, as well as printed shapes and words.

Here are some helpful examples of using more/less at home:

- Use the words more and less in your daily routines that connect the word with an action, such as during meal time. As your child frequently hears this word used in context, he will begin to understand its meaning.
- More can be used with many activities, such as eating, rocking, kissing and singing. For example, sing a short verse, pause and ask, "More? Okay, more!" Then continue singing
- At a very young age a child can tell who has more. If a child is offered one cookie in one hand or two cookies in another hand, the child will select the larger quantity. Parents reinforce this ability to compare quantities by explaining what the child naturally knows: "You have four raisins and I have two. You have more raisins that I do."
- Describe groups that occur during daily activities. "You have two shoes." "Here are four crayons." "You have three apple slices on your plate."



For children age 3 and above some additional ideas include:

- Roll one die and count the number of dots on the side that lands up.
- Do simple matches of the dot patterns on the READY! game board cards. This activity may be expanded if the child desires by making matches using the cards and dice together.
- You and your child each roll a die then ask, "Who has more dots?" Let your child answer by making a visual guess. After the child has guessed, simply state the fact, "Five dots is more than three dots." The child may count the dots but the greater benefit is to let him or her try to guess or recognize quantities at a glance. This activity is a forerunner to estimating.

Are You Registered?

Workshop registration has recently changed. Check to make sure your family is registered for the Spring Workshop by logging into your account at readyforkindergarten.org/unitedwaynorthidaho.

or call (208) 667-8112

See you at the next **READY!** workshop. Classes are filling-up quick!

April 11, Lakeland

April 18, Post Falls

April 28, Coeur d'Alene

Feel like Sharing?

We'd love to hear how Ready! for Kindergarten workshops have impacted your family. Please share your story with us - we love what we do!

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of North Idaho**



READY!
for Kindergarten®

The Children's Reading Foundation

