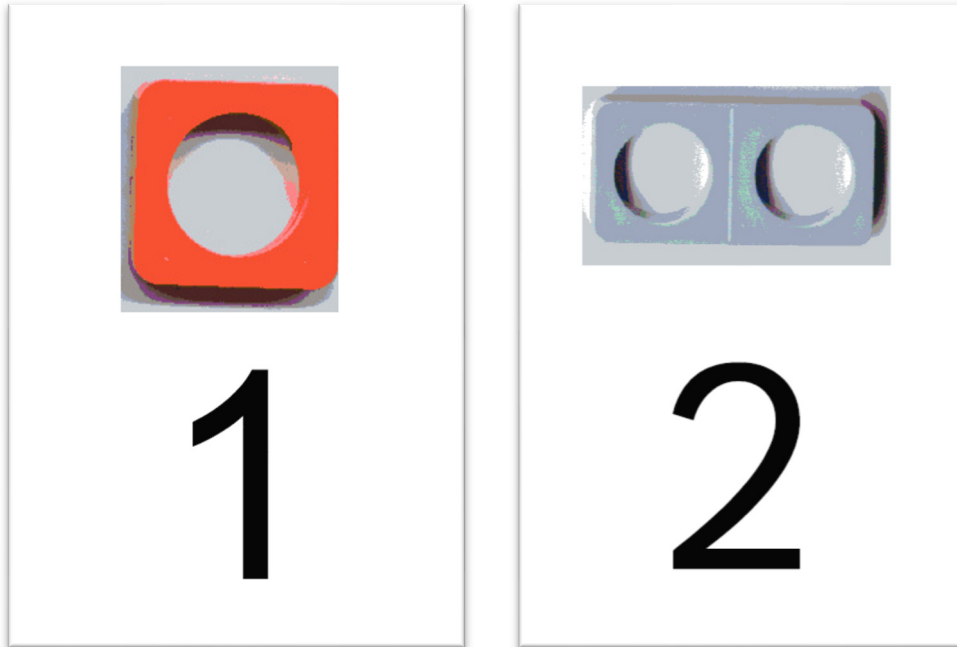


Learning 1, 2

Shortly after introducing picture – picture matching we introduce large A4 images of the digits 1 and 2 and their Numicon representation.

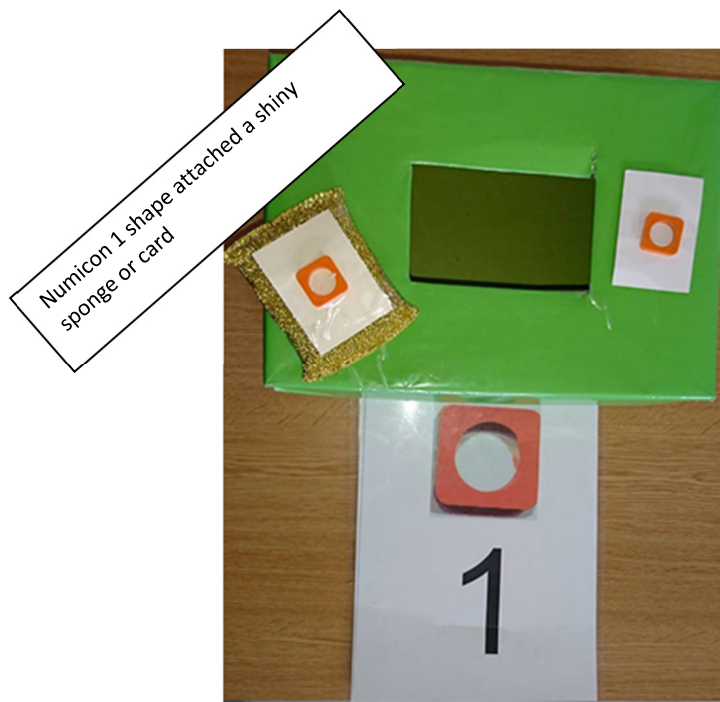


This is done using the song “Peter Hammers”; we all lay down on the floor and hammer the images and just sing the first two verses of the song. This focuses the children directly onto the images and the number names “one” and “two” are constantly repeated and reinforced.

Resources

- A4 Numicon pictures numbers 1 and 2 – enough for one each, no need to laminate, paper is sufficient
- Several number 2 and number 1 Numicon shapes. Stick the 1’s onto a square of cardboard using clear sticky tape, or if some children are still struggling to post stick some onto sponges.
- Two large post boxes, (which can be made from old shoe boxes covered in brightly coloured paper) one with a Numicon 1 shape attached the other with a Numicon 2 shape attached.

Skills needed: letting go, posting



Activities

Give out an A4 picture of 1 to each child and encourage all (parents and children) to lay down on their stomachs and hammer the number with their fist while you sing the song "*Peter hammers with one hammer, one hammer, one hammer, Peter hammers with one hammer all day long*".

Then give out a Numicon 2 A4 picture and repeat singing Peter hammers with 2 hammers, (you do not need to hammer with two fists, just hammering the A4 image will draw attention to the images of 2).

They will really enjoy this activity; it is one that will be repeated for several months.

The children are then given posting boxes (as above image) labelled either with a Numicon 1 shape or a Numicon 2 shape, and a like set of Numicon shapes, (the Numicon 1 shapes are taped onto card, or sponge, to avoid any risk of choking).

There is no sorting they are just posting – “one in” or ‘two in’ several times, emptying the box and repeating.

Once they have done this several times boxes are exchanged so each child gets their turn to practice posting both Numicon 1 or 2 shapes.

Taking turns with their parent is important. Parents are encouraged to demonstrate the task and ensure the game does not become too difficult but remains fun.