



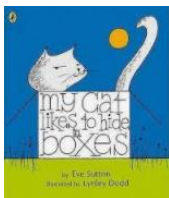


My Cat Likes to Hide in Boxes Maths

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Number	Shape Space and Measures
<p>Play a game with 2 small baskets and toy cats or laminated cat pictures. Roll a dice with spots or numerals, count that many into the basket until all the cats have gone. Who has more? Can child tell by looking?</p> 	<p>Guess the box by putting it in a feely bag (using a blindfold- cylinder box e.g. Pringles tube; cube box; cuboid box e.g. shoe box; flatter cuboid box e.g. tissue box; triangular prism box e.g. Toblerone) feeling it, then identifying which box from a matching set on a table. Support using hand under hand by describing e.g. It feels long/round/pointy at the end/we can roll it.</p> 
<p>1:1 correspondence Give one basket/bowl for milk/tin of food/toy/blanket to a set of toy cats. Do we have enough? Do we need more? How many more?</p> 	<p>Explore different cat fur patterns and talk about them e.g. striped; spotty; patched; solid colour. Use paints to make cat patterns onto cat outlines or templates. Sort pictures of cats into sets by pattern.</p> 



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Set up a pet shop using toy animals, pet toys; bowls; food; baskets, price labels, 1p coins. See SHOR handout '[Setting up a Shopping Activity](#)'.



Use pre-cut 2D shapes to make a cat, supporting the child by encouraging them to talk about the shapes they are using e.g. circle face, eyes, triangle nose and ears; rectangle whiskers.



Using a range of different sized boxes, estimate and check whether one will fit inside another and how many toy cats can fit in each box.



Use coloured playdough to make cats. Support child by describing as we form the dough: "we need a round shape with a pointy end"; "we need to roll/squeeze/pinch the dough".

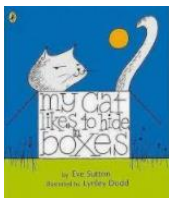


When story is very familiar, match the different cats to their flags and/or sequence them as you read the story.



Use play dough, googly eyes and pipe cleaners to make cats and compare size. Can child make one that is bigger/smaller?





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Make a simple pictogram to collect data about the story, for example how many cats wear hats? How many cats like to hide in boxes? How many cats are white?



Play a game where the child hides a toy cat in/on/under/behind/beside a box. The adult or children in the group take turns to guess where the cat is hidden by asking questions such as "Is it in the box?" and the child responds yes/no.

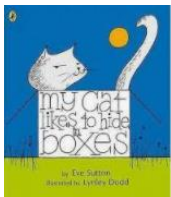


Make and/or use a set of simple stick puppets to add one one cat each time as you read the story, and count how many now.



Play a simple snap/pairs game or bingo using patterned cat pictures, talking about the patterns and colours e.g. "I have a striped, brown and white cat".

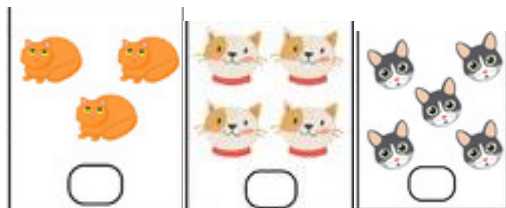




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Make a simple cat number book by adding one cat each time on each page and counting how many altogether. Stick or write the corresponding numeral.



Cut string or wool to make tails for paper cats and talk about length. Can the child give the next cat a tail that is longer/shorter?



Cut, fold and stick a simple cube net to make a box to hide a paper cat inside. The child could also decorate the box and the cat. There is a printable net and cat online [here](#).

