



CAR TARGET



If you are looking for a game that you can vary for any age, then this is for you! I trialed this first with people who follow me online and it was a huge hit, probably because it is so versatile. The idea behind the game is that your little one is adding up and taking away over and over without even realizing they're doing loads of maths. If they already love maths, this game might seem like even more fun for them!

GRAB:

- a big piece of cardboard
- paper and pencil
- a marker pen
- 2 different-coloured toy cars
- scissors
- tape to create edges, or something to make a barrier around the edges
- chair (or anything else that's a similar height, like a stool or low table)

TO SET UP ...

1. Cut the box and tape the edges to create a ramp with a large enclosed landing area that has barriers or edges to stop the cars flying off. (See the photo of ours opposite.)
2. On the landing area, draw a grid with numbers written in the squares. Write whatever numbers you think your little one can manage.
3. Lean the ramp against a chair or similar. Put the cars at the top. Write a target number on a blank piece of paper. We set the target at 50.

TO PLAY ...

1. Explain to your child that one car is an addition car and if you send that down the ramp it adds up the numbers, and if you choose the other colour car it takes the number away. Explain that the target you are trying to reach is 50 (or whatever you chose as your target).
2. They select the addition car to start with and send it down the ramp. Ask them to write down whatever number it lands on, then roll the car down again. Write down the second number and then they have to add the numbers together. The answer won't have made 50, so help them to recognize that they need to add more numbers and select the adding coloured car again. ▶