



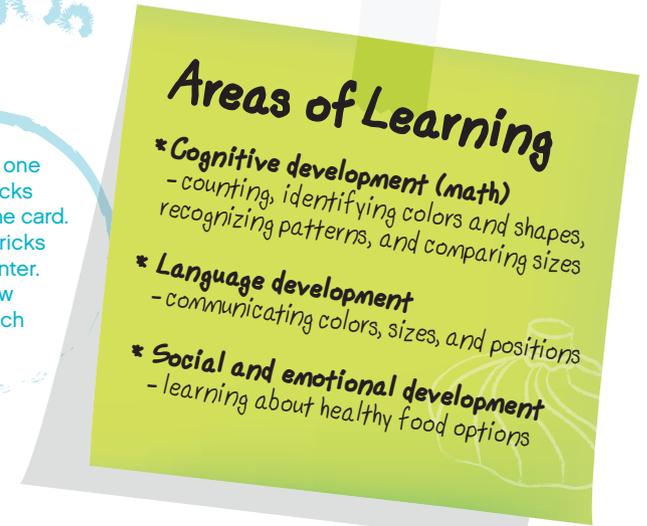
45004 Café+

Five Ideas for Exploring Math
Age: 3-5 * For 2-4 children



Tip

To make building easier, select one recipe card and gather the bricks needed to build the two items on the card. Keep the recipe card and the bricks in a tray at the manipulative center. Ask the children to count how many ingredients they use each time they build.



Areas of Learning

- * **Cognitive development (math)**
 - counting, identifying colors and shapes, recognizing patterns, and comparing sizes
- * **Language development**
 - communicating colors, sizes, and positions
- * **Social and emotional development**
 - learning about healthy food options



5 Ideas:

- * Encourage the children to build a short burger and a tall burger. Then compare the two. What is the difference in size? How many bricks did they use in each? Which has more? Which has less?
- * Prompt one child to role-play as a very hungry customer who wants a sandwich twice the size of a normal one. Use the sandwich recipe card and help the children pick two of each ingredient. Then have the children build a sandwich any way they like using all the ingredients.
- * Encourage two of the children to each build freezer pops that include a pattern. Based on the children's abilities, encourage them to make more complex patterns. Compare two or more freezer pops.

* Pretend to be a very picky customer who doesn't like anything on the menu. Ask the children to build a treat with exactly ten ingredients. They can be as imaginative as possible!

* Prompt the children to build a piece of fruit, such as an apple. Have them count how many bricks they used. What happens when they pretend to take a bite by removing one brick? How many bricks do they have now? Repeat this process until the apple is all eaten up!



Tip

After using the recipe cards, you may wish to supply materials for the children to create their own recipe cards.



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