

2019-2020 TEACHER TIME LITTLE SCIENTISTS - EXPLORING MATH WITH PRESCHOOLERS

Books That Support Math Thinking for Preschoolers

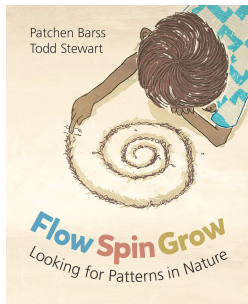
As you plan to use books with children, first take some “LAB notes.”

L= Learning. What scientific concept will be introduced or deepened with this book?

A= Advanced Vocabulary. What are some words that might be new or fun that we could use in our interactions and learning activities?

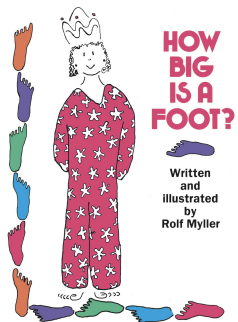
B= Beyond the Book. What can I do to extend or reinforce or connect to other learning beyond the book?

Book List



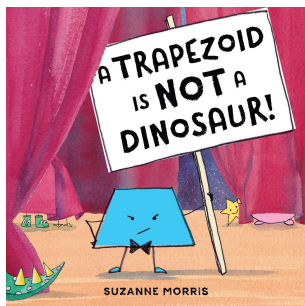
Flow, Spin, Grow: Looking for Patterns in Nature by Patchen Barss

This book is a beautiful look at patterns in nature. It encourages children to pay attention to and explore the different types of patterns that exist in the world, such as branching, spinning, and spiraling. There's such great new vocabulary in this book. And think about how you can go beyond the book – out into nature. Or if you don't have a lot of natural spaces to explore, you can use the photos in this book to encourage children to use art materials to replicate the patterns.



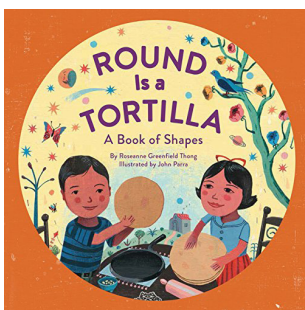
How big is a foot? By Rolf Mylier

This is a fun, imaginative story about a king who wants to give his wife a bed for her birthday. But he isn't sure how long a bed should be? This story supports the use of nonstandard measures, which are those that may differ, depending on the size. For example, if you're using my foot to measure how long a bed should be, it might be quite a few less feet than if you used my son's foot! A great way to take this idea beyond the book is to use children's feet – and your own! – to measure different lengths and distances and discuss reasons why the number of feet might be different.



A trapezoid is not a dinosaur! By Suzanne Morris

This is a really fun book that introduces preschool children to new and interesting shape names. It exposes children to the concept of comparing shapes by their attributes. New vocabulary, and new ways to compare shapes – all of this will take you beyond the book when you provide interesting shapes for children to sort, compare, put together and pull apart.



Round is a tortilla by Rosanne Thong

This is a beautiful story of a young girl who discovers shapes in her Hispanic neighborhood. There are different variations of this story that celebrate the cultures and languages of other children and their families. For example, Round is a mooncake, and Crescent moons and pointed minarets. Use these books as a starting point for discussing the types of shapes children observe in the neighborhood around your program and in the neighborhoods they live in.



I know numbers! By Tar Gorni

This is a beautifully illustrated book that encourages children to be confident in and proud of their skills with numbers and counting. This picture book can be used with all children. It shows the many places in our daily lives where we see and use numbers. What a great opportunity to move beyond the book and explore your learning environment or take a neighborhood walk to find numbers! The book and scavenger hunt will support children's understanding of number symbols and what they represent.