Five Little Ducks is a great song your child will love to sing again and again! This book is great for developing phonological awareness, the ability to hear and play with the smaller sounds in words.

Singing also helps develop phonological awareness as singing naturally breaks words into smaller sounds or syllables. The sense of rhythm obtained from listening to songs and rhymes will help your child to identify patterns, like rhyming words, which will help them learn to read. Because songs automatically break down words into smaller sounds through tones, singing with your child is one of the best ways to develop early literacy skills.

**Books about Counting!**

| Over in the Ocean by Marianne Berkes | Big Fat Hen by Keith Baker |
| Over in the Meadow by Katharine Dana | Ten in the Den by John Butler |
| Let's Count it Out, Jesse Bear by Nancy Carlstrom | 1, 2, 3 to the Zoo by Eric Carle |
| 5 Little Monkeys Jumping on the Bed by Eileen Christelow | Ants at the Picnic by Michael Dahl |
| Olivia Counts by Ian Falconer | Duck & Goose 1, 2, 3 by Tad Hill |
| Give the Dog a Bone by Steven Kellog | One Duck Stuck by Phyllis Root |
| Just Enough Carrots by Stuart Murphy | Mouse Count by Ellen Walsh |

**Numbers & Counting**

With this book (and any counting book) encourage your child to count with their fingers. Use your child’s toys to help illustrate the numbers. If you are counting down, have five stuffed animals and take them away one by one until there are none left.

Read Nursery Rhymes are easy for children to memorize because they are made up of patterns. This use of patterns helps your child learn a simple math skill. A lot of nursery rhymes (like Big Fat Hen) include numbers and counting which are also math skills.

Research has shown that children who enter kindergarten and can count with a good understanding of the connection between number words and their actual numerical value do better in mathematics. Studies have shown that children who could count to 20 in preschool had the highest math scores in 1st grade.

When you read a book with your child, count the number of ducks or butterflies on the page. Point to each one as you count it. At home, count how many apple slices or M&Ms your child has for a snack. Count steps as you go up or down them.
Here are some fun songs and rhymes with numbers!

**Ten in a Bed**
There were ten in a bed
and the little one said,
“Roll over, roll over”
So they all rolled over and one fell out.

**Repeat** till there is one left

There was one in a bed
and the little one said,
“Good night!”

**Sally The Camel**
Sally the camel has five humps.
Sally the camel has five humps.
Sally the camel has five humps.
So ride, Alice, ride.
Boom, boom, boom, boom!

**Count down to no humps**
‘Cause Sally is a horse, of course.

**This Old Man Song**
This old man, he played one,
He played knick-knack on my thumb;
Knick-knack paddywhack,
Give a dog a bone,
This old man came rolling home.

**Repeat with:**
Two…shoe
Three…knee
Four…door
Five…hive
Six…sticks
Seven…Heaven
Eight…gate
Nine…spine
Ten…once again

**Big Fat Hen**
One, two,
Buckle my shoe;
Three, four,
Shut the door;
Five, six,
Pick-up sticks;
Seven, eight,
Lay them straight:
Nine, ten,
A big, fat hen;
Eleven, twelve,
Dig and delve;
Thirteen, fourteen,
Maids a-courting;
Fifteen, sixteen,
Maids in the kitchen;
Seventeen, eighteen,
Maids a-waiting
Nineteen, twenty,
My plate's empty.

**Baa Baa Black Sheep**
Baa, baa black sheep
Have you any wool?
Yes sir, yes sir
Three bags full

One for my master
One for my dame
One for the little boy
Who lives down the lane

Baa, baa black sheep
Have you any wool?
Yes sir, yes sir
Three bags full!

**The Ants Go Marching**
The ants go marching one by one, hurrah, hurrah
The ants go marching one by one, hurrah, hurrah
The ants go marching one by one,
The little one stops to suck his thumb
And they all go marching down to the ground,
to get out of the rain.
BOOM! BOOM! BOOM!

**Repeat with:**
Two by two…The little one stops to tie his shoe
Three by three…The little one stops to climb a tree
Four by four…The little one stops to shut the door
Five by five…The little one stops to take a dive
Six by six…The little one stops to pick up sticks
Seven by seven…The little one stops to go to heaven
Eight by eight…The little one stops to shut the gate
Nine by nine…The little one stops to scratch his spine
Ten by ten…The little one stops to say “THE END”