

Number partners: make 10 or 20

A five-minute game for an adult and child. You need this sheet and a pencil. Start with a target of 10; use 20 when your child is ready. Draw dots or use fingers to help.

Our target today: 10 / 20 (circle one)

1. Choose, think, explain

One player chooses a whole number from 0 up to the target.

The other finds its partner: the number that adds to it to make the target.

Example: target 10, chosen number 6, partner 4. Check: $6 + 4 = 10$.

2. Take turns for five rounds

Swap who chooses the first number each round. Say the complete calculation aloud. There is no timer or score.

Round	Chosen number	Its partner	Our total
1			
2			
3			
4			
5			

3. Spot a pattern

Ask: "If my chosen number increases by 1, what happens to its partner?"

Try a pair to check. Example: $6 + 4 = 10$, then $7 + 3 = 10$.

Make it fit: choose a target of 5 if needed and draw one dot for each item. If a pair is tricky, count the dots together.
Extend: find all the pairs for your target and explain how you know none are missing.