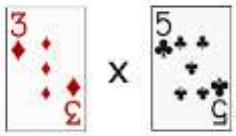
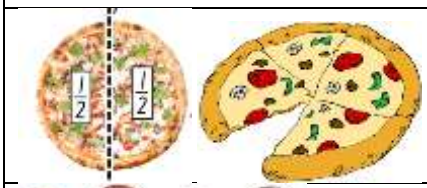
Helping your child with maths

	Board games. Simple board games can help with maths. Questions as you are playing can support your child's calculation skills such as, 'What do you need to roll to get to the next ladder?' and 'You are on 5 and just rolled a 4 so which number will you land on?' If you play games with two dice, the children will need to add the score to calculate their move. They will also begin to recognise the number from the number of dots.
	With a pack of cards you can make up lots of maths games. Take out the picture cards, deal 5 cards each and look for pairs that will make 10. Put down pairs and pick up cards to create more 10s. The first person with 5 pairs wins. You can also play games to make any number such as making 15 or 20. Play doubles snap. Then calculate the total of the pair to keep the cards. Ordering numbers in the pack. Saying which is the smallest or the largest then using the < and > sign correctly in between the pair e.g 15 < 32 and 45 > 12. Select certain cards to multiply together (3 groups of 5): 
	Sharing food is a great way of dividing and finding fractions. You can find half of a packet of raisins or half of a pizza or cake with emphasis on how it has to be two equal parts.
	Name the coins. Coins can be used to count in multiples of that number. For instance a handful of 2ps can be used to practice counting in 2's. You can do the same for 5ps and 10ps. Counting in 1ps then asking, 'What would be one more?', 'What would be 1 less?'
	Travelling in the car or walking to school are great times for counting. You could set a challenge such as counting in 2s until you get to the lamppost. Spotting numbers on road signs and asking, 'What would be 10 more or 10 less?' Count backwards in ones too as this is always trickier. Find half of a number you see on a door or double numbers. Add all the numbers together in number plates.
	Use clocks to tell the time to the hour and half hour. The quarter to and quarter past the hour. Follow with 5 minutes past. Time can also be about sequencing events, days of the week and months of the year.