



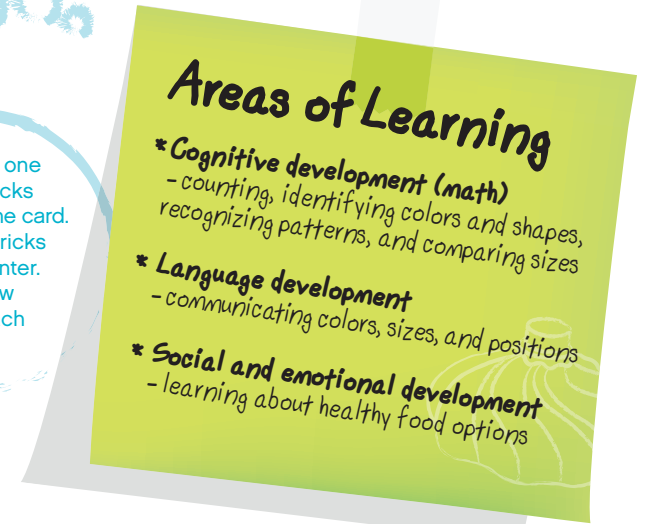
# 45004 Café+

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

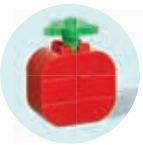


## 5 Ideas:

- \* 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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