

Dear Parents,

Did You Know?

A skillful problem-solver knows how to think ahead and make a successful plan. Competitive games such as checkers, chess, or backgammon often involve mathematical problem-solving skills. Teach your child to play Reaching 20 to sharpen his or her game-playing and problem-solving skills.

How You Can Help

1. Take turns counting one or two numbers aloud until someone reaches 20.
2. The first player can say *one* or *one, two*. The second player then says the next number, *two* or *three* or the next two numbers, *two, three* or *three, four*.
3. The player to say 20 is the winner.
4. After the first round, explain that the game asks players to think ahead and plan what he or she should do based on what the other player does. Tell your child that thinking ahead and planning is important when he or she does things such as shopping, cooking, woodworking, art projects, gardening, sewing, or car repair.
5. Play two or three more rounds until your child sharpens his or her strategic skills.

