Number Busting
From EMU Specialist Teacher Course – Dr. Ann Gervasoni

We need:
- Counting objects (counters, beans etc.)
- Paper
- Pencil

How to play:
1. Ask your child to choose a number depending on their ability level.
2. Give your child counting objects based on their chosen number i.e. if they choose 10, given them 10 counters.
3. Tell your child you are going to give them 5 minutes to write down as many things as they know about that number.
4. Ask your child to share their ideas at the end of the time.

Note: You might like to complete a number bust at the same time, so you can share your ideas with your child.

What is the mathematics?
Partitioning -> the number stays the same when you partition (or split) it. **It is important to encourage the child to not use subtraction.**
- Addition
- Structure of numbers
- Turn around facts, e.g. \(5 + 3 = 8\) and \(3 + 5 = 8\)

Questions to ask your child
- Can you do it another way?
- Could you make a turn around fact?
  E.g. \(4 + 5 = 9\), the turn around is \(5 + 4 = 9\)
- Can you put your number on a tens frame?
- **Important question:** How do you know?

[Video](#) available on how to play the game