

## Topic: Supporting children's early maths as a basis for STEM (3-6 years)

Both *Aistear* and *Síolta* highlight the importance of supporting children's holistic development including STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths).

In this short CPD session, you will learn about the importance of nurturing early maths experiences as they are fundamental to STEM. The suggested resources for viewing, reading and reflecting on highlight how you can help support children's early maths learning through play and hands-on experiences. They also highlight the importance of using maths language in your setting.

Maths underpins all STEM learning experiences

### Key connections

- *Aistear's* theme of Exploring and Thinking
- *Síolta* Standard 6: Play



Watch this 3-minute video, [Building on young children's every day maths experiences \(3-6 years\)](#) to find out from Professor Doug Clements how you can develop children's understanding of the world through a maths-lens.



Watch this 2-minute video, [Enriching play with the language of mathematics \(Birth-6 years\)](#) to hear Professor Doug Clements highlight the importance of using maths language in your setting.



Watch Dr Liz Dunphy provide practical ideas for introducing children to different aspects of measure in this 7-minute video, [Using play in preschool settings to think and talk about measure](#).



Watch this 4-minute video, [Using books in preschool settings to think and talk about measure](#) to get ideas from Dr Liz Dunphy on books that can help children develop concepts and learn the language of measure.



Read this tip sheet, [Learning about measure](#) to find out about the bank of words children need to understand in relation to length, height and so on. While developed for parents, it is also very useful for practitioners.



Watch this 3-minute video on emergent literacy and numeracy, [Making shapes and symbols \(3-6 years\)](#) to hear one practitioner's story of supporting children's creative maths experiences.



My key reflections having viewed/read the above materials



An action I can take . . .



Link to the Practice Guide's [Aistear Síolta Action Planning Template](#)

All of the above resources and many more are available on the *Aistear Síolta* Practice Guide website at [www.aistearsiolta.ie](http://www.aistearsiolta.ie)

Thank you for visiting and using the Practice Guide



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