Hands on
Activities for Learning at Home

Word Building
Use magnetic letters, Banana Grahams, or Scrabble tiles to build spelling words. If you don’t have any letter tiles you can always make our own! Write the letters of the alphabet on a piece of paper. Then cut out each letter. Use your cut paper letter pieces to make different words. Make words that rhyme. Or, make trick words!

I Spy Letters
Give your child an age appropriate catalog, magazine, or newspaper page. Ask your child to find and cut out all of the letters of the alphabet. Then rearrange their cut letters into ABC order.

I Spy Words
Give your first grader an age appropriate catalog, magazine, or newspaper page. Ask your first grader to find and cut any trick word that they see.
Play Dough Addition and Subtraction
Make salt dough or use Play Doh. Tell your child an addition or subtraction equation. Ask your child to build the equation using balls of play doh. 1+9, 2+8, 3+7, 4+6, 5+5, 10-1, 10-2, 10-3, 10-4, 10-5.

Outside
Write math equations in the sand outside. Doubles facts: 1+1, 2+2, 3+3, 4+4, 5+5, 6+6, 7+7, 8+8, 9+9, 10+10.

Jump rope or bounce a ball counting how many jumps or bounces. Try counting by 2s. 2,4,6,8,10,12,14,16,18,20.

Collect 120 rocks or sticks. Sort collected items into groups of 10. Count by 10s to 120! Ask your child to show you different numbers: 20, 25, 42, 50, 63, etc.

Coin Counting
Present your child with a pile of change. Ask your child to sort the change into piles of pennies, nickels, dimes, and quarters. Use the nickels to practice skip counting by 5s. Use the dimes to practice skip counting by 10s.
Measurement
Give your child a tape measure. Ask them to measure different household items. Write and record their measurements on a piece of paper.

Stuffy School
Ask your child to line up their stuffed animals on the couch or rug like a class of students. Ask your child to choose a book and read aloud to their class of stuffies.

Science Writing
Go on a nature walk around your yard or someplace safe. Find one biofact that interests you (birds nest, animal track, tree, shell, rock, plant, etc. Observe it. Draw it. Label it. Write facts that you know about it.

Bake or Cook
Any kind of baking or cooking with your child combines reading, math, and science. It also reinforces the social skills of following directions and being patient. Bake cookies or muffins. Make pancakes or pizza dough.