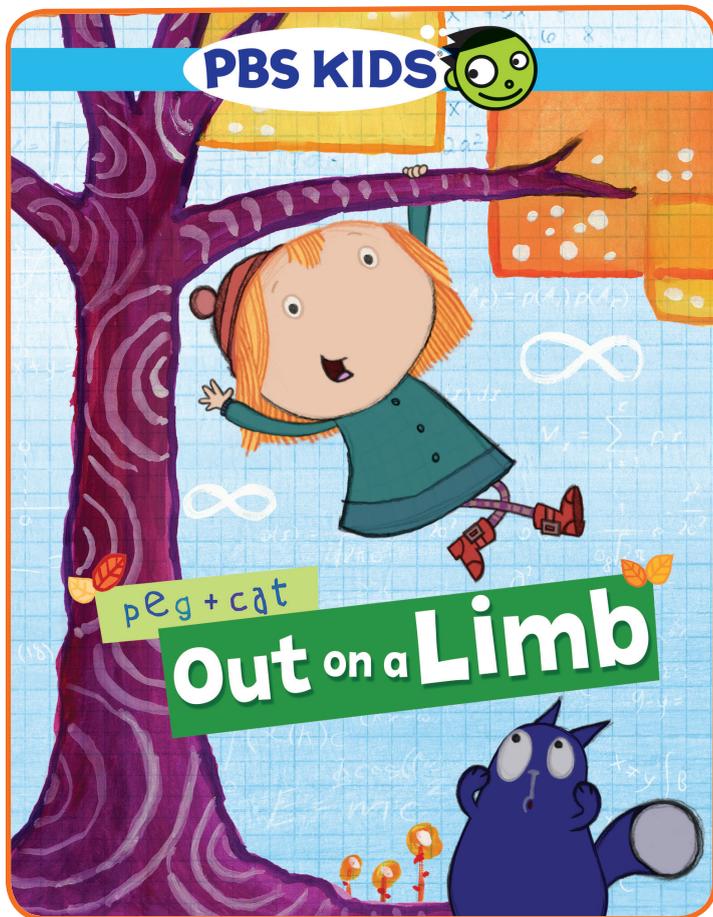


Watch + Play + Learn



DVD Family Activity Guide

About Peg + Cat

Peg + Cat is a PBS KIDS TV series that shows children that math is fun and math is everywhere. On every program the main character, a girl named Peg, has a problem... "a really big problem." With the help of her friend Cat, she learns that if she calms down, she can figure out a solution. In every episode, Peg and Cat sing, "Problem solved. The problem is solved. We solved the problem and everything is awesome!! Problem solved."



About the Project

Allegheny Intermediate Unit Head Start programs are part of an exciting project funded by the National Science Foundation. The project uses Peg + Cat to help teachers and families learn how to make math more exciting and interesting for children. Head Start families will see Peg + Cat activities in classrooms, as well as in activities and games they can take home – some to borrow and some to keep – to play with their children and have fun with math!



peg+cat Watch + Play + Learn

Welcome!

Welcome to the fun world of math with Peg + Cat. The programs on this DVD show how math can be used to solve problems. We hope they give you a fun way to help your child learn about math.

Your child learns a lot from you. So when you use math words, like the ones on these shows, you help your child learn. You can find math everywhere. It is part of everyday life—at home and all around us.

Watching with your Child

- Children learn so much more when a parent or other adult is with them. Just being close by to listen can help.
- Talk about what is happening in the story. You can say things like, "Look how they are working together!" Ask questions like, "What do you think will happen next?" "What will help them solve the problem?"
- After watching, ask questions like, "Can you tell me what happened?" "What was the problem?" and "How did they solve it?"

You might find that it can be fun for you, too, as you watch, play and learn together.

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"The Tree Problem"



Where is Cat? He is stuck in a tree. His friend Peg has a really big problem—how to get him get down. She solves the problem by stacking three things in just the right way so Cat can get down.

"I Can Count on You" Song

Peg sings, "I can count on you."
She means, "I know you will help me."
Who does Peg count on for help?
Who does your child count on for help?



Math Words

Here are some math words that were used on this program. You might not think of them as math words, but they are. They tell us where things are. You help your child learn math when you say these words:

- Up
- Down
- Behind
- Next To
- Under
- High
- Higher
- Highest

Children learn best when they hear math words again and again—and when they use them in their everyday life.

Practice Using Math Words

- Ask your child to point to something that is *up*.
- Can your child point to something *high* or *next to*?
- Can your child point to other things, using this list of math words?

Fun Math Activities

- Give your child things to stack—like a box, a toilet paper tube, a plastic cup. Ask your child to stack them in different ways. What is the best way to stack them so they do not fall down?
- You can make a simple *Obstacle Course* game. Ask your child to crawl *next to* a couch, step over a pillow, hide *under* a table, or go *behind* a chair.

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"Another Tree Problem"



Cat is stuck in a tree—again! Peg has to find a different way to get him down. She learns there is more than one way to solve a problem. This time she solves the problem with giraffes. She puts four giraffes in order—from tallest to shortest. Now Cat can jump down, step by step.



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Math Words

Here are some math words that were used on this program. They help us *compare* things. You help your child learn math when you say these words:

Children learn best when they hear math words again and again—and when they use them in their everyday life.

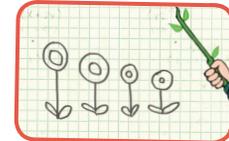
- Tallest
- 4th Tallest (which is also the shortest)
- 2nd Tallest
- Enormous
- 3rd Tallest

Practice Using Math Words

- Ask your child, "What is the *tallest* thing you see?" Then ask, "What is the *2nd tallest* thing?" "The *3rd tallest*?"
- Can your child name an animal that is "*enormous*?"

Fun Math Activities

- Ask your child to jump a little *high*. Now ask your child to jump a little *higher*. What is the *highest* your child can jump?
- Find 4 things that are different heights. Can your child put them together in order from *shortest* to *tallest*?
- When Cat was in the tree, a bird helped Cat. The bird gave Cat 4 flowers, from *tallest* to *shortest*. Ask your child to draw 4 things—like flowers, trees or people—from *tallest* to *shortest*.



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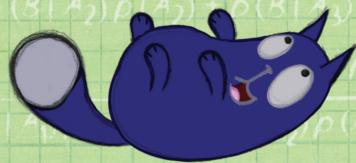
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"Yet Another Tree Problem"



Now Peg is stuck up in the tree. Cat needs to get her down. Cat makes a ladder. But it does not work. Now Cat is stuck in the tree with Peg! Their friend Ramone uses math to build a ladder that works to get them down.

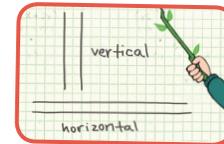


Math Words

Here are some math words that were used on this program. You help your child learn math when you say these words:

Children learn best when they hear math words again and again—and when they use them in their everyday life.

- Up
- Down
- Horizontal (flat across)
- Vertical (straight up and down)

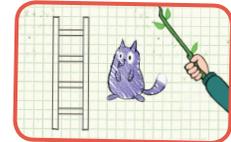


Practice Using Math Words

- Ask your child to show you things that are *horizontal* (like a bed or table top).
- Ask your child to show you things that are *vertical* (like table legs or a tree).
- Take turns finding things that are *horizontal* and *vertical*.

Fun Math Activities

- Cat wanted to make a ladder, and he needed 2 pieces the same size for the sides of the ladder. Ask your child to find 2 things at home that are the same size.
- Play "Simon Says" or "Follow the Leader." Your child can have fun listening carefully and learning math words, too. You could say: "Put your hand *up*." "Put your hand *on top* of your head." "Put your hand *down*."



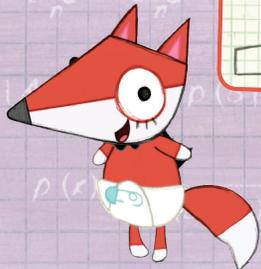
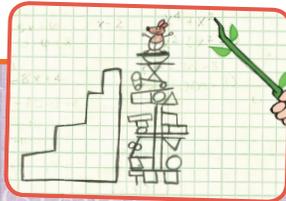
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"The Baby Problem"



This story gives Peg and Cat a new math problem to solve. Baby Fox makes a really big tower and gets stuck on top! Peg and Cat need to learn about shapes and diagrams, so they can find a way to get Baby Fox down.



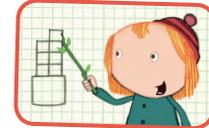
Children learn best when they hear math words again and again—and when they use them in their everyday life.

Math Words

Here are some math words that were used on this program.

You help your child learn math when you say these words:

- Cylinder (like a glass or a toilet paper roll) 
- Cube (like dice or square tissue box) 
- Triangle (like a folded napkin) 
- Diagram (a chart that helps you plan)

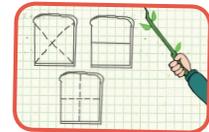


Practice Using Math Words

- Ask your child to find something that is:
 - a cylinder, cube, and a triangle

Fun Math Activities

- Making a *diagram*: Ask your child to stack 3 things (like a plastic cup, a plate, and a spoon). Now have your child draw a *diagram* to show how the 3 things are stacked. Have your child take the stack apart. Now have your child build it again using the *diagram*.
- When you are at home—or out—ask your child to find different shapes. Look in stores, on cars and streets, and even in nature. How many different shapes can you find? There are shapes everywhere.
- When you cut a sandwich, ask your child what shape to make—*triangles, rectangles or squares?*



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How Peg Solves Problems



5...4...3...2...1

When Peg has a really big problem, she needs to calm down. She counts backwards 5...4...3...2...1. That helps her calm down. Then she can figure out how to solve her problem. Your child can see that counting backwards 5...4...3...2...1 helps Peg. It may help your child to try to calm down, too.

 the
FredRogers
The legacy lives on. company

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