



MathStart®

**Too Many Kangaroo
Things To Do**
Multiplying
Level 3 Ages 7+

Activity Ideas

By learning how to multiply by 1, 2, 3, and 4, children are introduced to multiplication, one of the four basic arithmetic operations.

Poor Kangaroo! It's his birthday but everybody's too busy to play with him. Emu has to bake one cake (1×1), spread two colors of frosting (1×2), decorate the cake with three flowers (1×3) and add four big candles (1×4). That's 10 Emu things to do when you add them up. The two platypuses, three koalas and four dingoes are likewise occupied with multiple tasks. Multiply each group's tasks, then add the totals together and it equals...a party! Illustrated by Kevin O'Malley.

- Review the math summary pages and encourage your child or students to talk about the number of activities each animal has to do and the total number of activities that have to be done.
- Make some cookies. Arrange the dough on each baking sheet differently. For example, in rows of 2s, 3s or 4s. While the cookies are baking, practice multiplying. Ask: "How many cookies are on the sheet?" and "After three sheets, how many cookies will we have?"
- Draw on cards pictures of insects with different numbers of legs: spiders, ants, beetles, mosquitoes, caterpillars, etc. Count the number of legs on each insect. How many legs are there altogether if you have two spiders, three ants, or four caterpillars?

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Stuart J Murphy