



MATHS

# “Universal calendar”

Ref. 30120



FOR EDUCATIONAL PURPOSES



# UNIVERSAL CALENDAR

Ref. 30120

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The game comprises a large illustrated metal board, 55 hard-wearing magnetic counters for identifying the seasons, days of the month and climate, and an erasable felt-tip pen for completing the spaces on the calendar: year, months, days of the week and date. Board dimensions: 42.5 x 58 cm.

## DESCRIPTION OF THE MAGNETIC COUNTERS

- 4 magnetic counters with different pictures representing the four seasons of the year.
- 31 numbered magnetic counters for showing the days of the month.
- 20 magnetic counters showing scenes representing different weather conditions.

## RECOMMENDED AGE GROUP:

From 3 to 8 years old.

Learning about how time is organized starts at an early age after language acquisition. From the age of three, children start familiarizing themselves with the seasons, the months of the year, etc. Progressively, they learn about the composition of time over a year to the point of identifying the exact date of the present moment in time.

This calendar has an intuitive structure that makes it easy for even the youngest children to understand the organization of time, as it ranges from the most general (the year, the seasons) to the most specific (days of the week and today's date). All of this helps children to develop a clear and schematic image of the composition of time over a year.

## EDUCATIONAL OBJECTIVES:

- o Learning the days of the week, the months and the seasons of the year.
- o Working on different aspects relating to the observation of nature and weather phenomena.
- o Acquiring the notions of time such as yesterday-today-tomorrow.
- o Identifying today's date, month and year.

## METHOD OF PLAY AND ACTIVITIES:

The calendar can be used in the classroom every day for different activities:

1. **The seasons of the year:** The first section is where the magnetic counters corresponding to the seasons of the year are placed. At the start of each season, the children can discuss the most important features of that particular season and write the name of the season on the board in the erasable felt-tip, followed by a discussion of its content. When doing activities related to the weather, the season and the weather can be associated. For example, by relating the predominant weather or climate with each of the seasons.
2. **The months of the year:** Complete the spaces for the twelve months of the year with the erasable felt-tip pen. This can be done either by the teacher or the children. As the board is



completed, you can encourage them to associate the months with the different seasons. You can then select the current month and write it underneath.

3. **The weeks of the month:** Start by naming the days of the week and putting their initials on the calendar. Each student then takes a magnetic counter with a number and places it on the calendar. In the morning, a student marks today's date with the felt-tip pen. This can be used for various activities: counting the number of days of the month that have already elapsed, counting the number of days left till the end of the month, counting how many Mondays or Tuesdays there are in the month, etc. or counting how many complete weeks there are in the month.

Another option is to fill in the calendar directly: every morning, a student takes the number corresponding to the date and places it on the calendar. Weekends and public holidays can be marked with the felt-tip pen. You can also work on the time-related concepts of yesterday-today-tomorrow.

4. **The weather.** Every morning, the magnetic counter showing the weather corresponding to that day should be placed underneath the date on the board. The students should keep an eye on the weather, and if there is any change choose the counter that best represents the new situation. This can be used to explore the concept of time, asking the children to remember what the weather was like yesterday or predict what it will be like tomorrow. You can also associate the climate or the most likely weather with each month of the year or each season.
5. **Today's date.** With the information on the month, date and year already included in the calendar, every day a student or the teacher, with the children's assistance, should write the full date on the bottom of the calendar. Once the date has been written on the board, the children can write it in their notebooks.

