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Here's a simple, yet tightly focused **maths game** that enables children to practice working with number bonds to 5.

The game works like this. Two children have the Fish Game Board between them and a counter each. The 12 number cards are shuffled and placed face-down near the board.

Now the first player turns over a number card, he or she then looks for the first complementary number on the track. For example, if they turn over a 3 they move to the first 2 (3+2=5) on the track; if they turn over a 5 they move to the first zero (5+0=5).

Now, the next player chooses his card, and the game continues until one player reaches Earth at the top of the board.

The game can be adapted in a number of ways:

Dice could be used instead of the number cards, or some number cards could be omitted.

Also, in this first version of the game the counters are always moved forward. Some children may benefit from adapting the rule: the counter moves to the nearest correct number - either forward or backward.

This is one of a range of similar 'Number Bond' games, see <u>mathsticks.com</u> for the other games, and hundreds of related mathematical games, resources and teaching ideas.

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