

Hagley Primary School

Reception Maths
parent workshop
25/05/26



By the end of Reception, children are expected to:



- Have a secure understanding of numbers up to 10, including how each number is made
- Recognise small amounts up to 5 without counting (subitising)
- Recall number bonds to 5 confidently, including simple subtraction, and some bonds to 10
- Count confidently beyond 20 and recognise number patterns
- Compare numbers up to 10, knowing when a quantity is more, less or the same
- Recognise and explore number patterns, including doubles, odds and evens, and sharing equally



Cardinality and Counting

Understanding that the cardinal value of a number refers to the quantity, or 'howmanyness' of things it represents



Comparison

Understanding that comparing numbers involves knowing which numbers are worth more or less than each other



Composition

Understanding that one number can be made up from (composed from) two or more smaller numbers



Pattern

Looking for and finding patterns helps children notice and understand mathematical relationships



Shape and Space

Understanding what happens when shapes move, or combine with other shapes, helps develop wider mathematical thinking



Measures

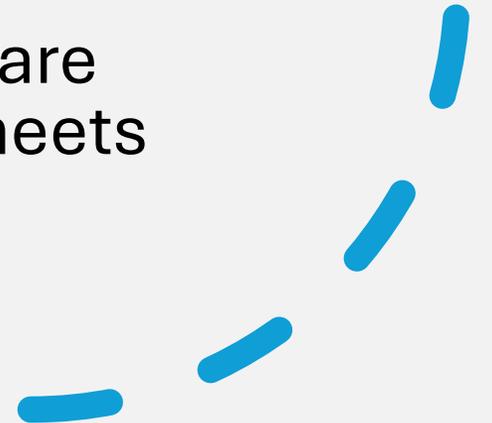
Comparing different aspects such as length, weight and volume, as a preliminary to using units to compare later



Six key areas of early Mathematics learning

How we teach Maths in Reception

- Practical, hands-on resources are used so children can see and handle quantities, helping them understand how numbers are made.
- Children are encouraged to talk about their maths and explain their thinking
- Strong number understanding is developed, including how numbers are made
- Play, games and real-life experiences are used to teach maths
- Confidence and understanding are prioritised over speed or worksheets
- Maths through singing!



What we
think is
important

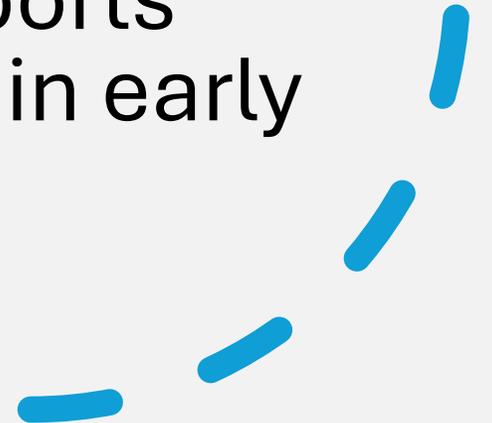


- **Composition of number**
- Understanding that numbers are made up of different parts.
- For example, knowing that 5 can be made of 2 and 3, or 1 and 4.
- This understanding supports children's mathematical development throughout school and links closely to partitioning, which is a key skill later in school.



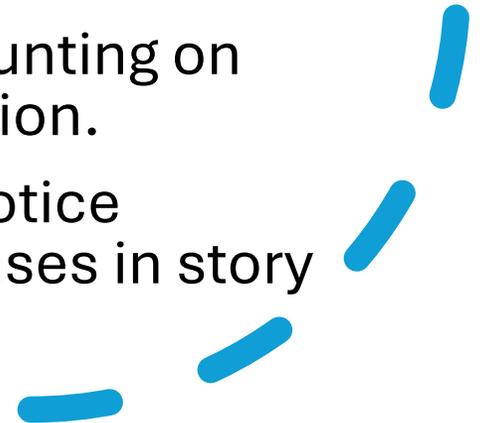
What we
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important

- **Subitising**
- Recognising small quantities without counting.
- For example, instantly knowing there are 5 objects when seeing them arranged in a familiar pattern.
- This helps children develop number sense and supports fluency and confidence in early maths.



How to help at home

- **Talk about numbers in everyday life** – count steps, toys, snacks or cars as you see them.
- **Spot shapes around you** – look for circles, squares and rectangles at home, in shops or on the way to school.
- **Use food and cooking** – talk about sharing food, filling containers and using different sized spoons or bowls.
- **Count while playing** – count Lego bricks, teddies, buttons or socks together.
- **Play with water and containers** – pouring, filling and emptying helps children understand capacity and comparison.
- **Use fingers to count** – encourage counting on and back to support number recognition.
- **Read stories and look for Maths** – notice numbers, patterns and repeated phrases in story books.

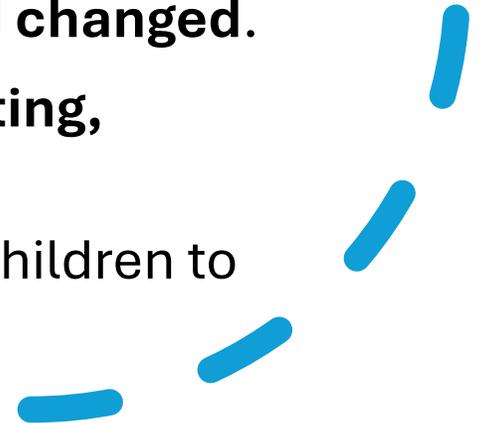




Numbots and Numberblocks



- **Numbots** is an online maths programme that helps children develop quick recall of number facts.
- It focuses on **counting, number bonds and simple addition and subtraction**.
- Children learn through short, engaging games that build confidence and fluency.
- It adapts to each child's level, so they can practise at their own pace.
- **Numberblocks** is a BBC children's TV programme that introduces numbers through characters and stories. [Vid](#)
- Each Numberblock represents a number and shows how numbers are **made, combined and changed**.
- It supports early understanding of **counting, composition of number and patterns**.
- Episodes are short, visual and easy for children to engage with and talk about.





Finally

Do Maths whenever you can – everyday moments make a big difference.

Little and often is best – short, regular practice builds confidence over time.

Encourage building and construction games – these support number, shape and problem-solving skills.

Share a positive Maths mindset – your attitude helps shape your child's confidence.

Enjoy your time in class with
your children.

Thank you for listening.

