

Mathematics Skills Progression



Topic	Nursery	Reception	SEND Provision
Counting	*Recognition of up to 3-objects (subitising) *Recite numbers to 5 *Say one number for each item in order: 1,2,3,4,5. *Understand that the last number counted in a small set of objects denotes the total (cardinal principle) *Show 'finger numbers' up to 5. *Link numerals to amounts (one-to-one correspondence)	*Recite and count numbers past 10 *Say one number for each item in order *Know that the last number reached in a larger set of objects denotes the total (cardinal principle) *Count objects, actions and sounds (Development Matters, 2021)	*Showbie *Photographic and pictorial prompts *Use of communication boards to support with explaining understanding *Consistent use of concrete manipulates *Apply learning to daily situations *Regular exposure to patterns with added modelling *Appropriate SEND support
Place Value		*Develop fast recognition of up to 5 objects, without having to count them individually ('subitising'). *Show "finger numbers' up to 5. *Experiment with their own symbols and marks as well as numerals. Subitise. *Have a deep understanding of numbers to 10, including the composition of each number	*Showbie *Photographic and pictorial prompts *Use of communication boards to support with explaining understanding *Consistent use of concrete manipulates *Apply learning to daily situations *Appropriate SEND support
Representing number	*Experiment with their own symbols and marks as well as numerals. Subitise.	* Link numerals and amounts: for example, showing the right number of objects to match the numeral, up to 5. *Explore and represent patterns within numbers to 10, including even and odds, double facts and how quantities can be described.	*Showbie *Photographic and pictorial prompts *Use of communication boards to support with explaining understanding *Consistent use of concrete manipulates *Apply learning to daily situations
Mathematical language	More, less, add, take away, left, altogether	*Understand a 2-part question or instruction *Use appropriate vocabulary to answer Why questions *Use talk to help work out problems and organise thinking and activities and to explain how things work and predict *Use vocabulary 'more than', 'less than', 'fewer', 'the same as' and 'equal to'.	*Showbie *Photographic and pictorial prompts *Use of communication boards to support with explaining understanding *Apply learning to daily situations *Appropriate SEND support
Number	*Compare quantities using words: more and less *Talk about and identify patterns around	*Compare numbers *Understand 'one more than/one less than' relationship between consecutive numbers *Compare quantities up to 10 in different contexts	*Showbie *Photographic and pictorial prompts *Use of communication boards to support with explaining understanding *Consistent use of concrete manipulates *Apply learning to daily situations *Appropriate SEND support
Problems	*Notice and correct an error in a repeating pattern	*Solve real world mathematical problems with number to 5 *Begin to describe a sequence of events, real or fictional, using words such as 'first', 'then'. *Distribute items evenly from a group	*Showbie *Photographic and pictorial prompts *Use of communication boards to support with explaining understanding *Consistent use of concrete manipulates *Apply learning to daily situations *Appropriate SEND support
Mental	*Do fast recognition of up to 3 objects without having to count them individually (subitising)	*Do fast recognition of up to 3 objects without having to count them individually (subitising) *Automatically recall number bonds 0-5 and some to 10. *Subitise up to 5	*Apply learning to daily situations *Appropriate SEND support *Use of communication boards to support with explaining understanding
Shapes & Space	*Explore 2D and 3D shapes using informal and mathematical language: sides, corners, flat, round. *Understand position through words alone no pointing. *Select appropriate shapes for a function (flat surface for a building) *Combine shapes to make new ones	*Select, rotate and manipulate shapes to develop special reasoning skills *Compare length, weight and capacity *Duplicate and create repeating patterns in various contexts *Compose and decompose shapes so that children recognise a shape can have other shapes within it – like numbers	*Showbie *Photographic and pictorial prompts *Use of communication boards to support with explaining understanding *Consistent use of concrete manipulates shape puzzles, shapes *Apply learning to daily situations

Blue highlighted font = Expected (Good) level of development - EYFS framework (ELG) Black font = Non-statutory curriculum guidance for EYFS, 2021