

The new national curriculum – Mathematics in Year 2

During Key Stage 1, there is a big focus on developing basic number skills. That means securing a good understanding of place value, and recognising number bonds to 20. Practising these skills frequently will help children's mathematical thinking throughout school.

Number bonds are essential to the understanding of maths. Children in Year 2 learn their number bonds to 20, that is being able to quickly recall the total of any two numbers up to 20, e.g. $5 + 9 = 14$, rather than having to count on to find the answer.

At the end of Year 2, all children will sit the National Curriculum Tests for Key Stage 1. This will include a short arithmetic test of 15 questions, and a second paper of broader mathematics which will last around 35 minutes.

Number and Place Value

- Recognise place value in two-digit numbers, e.g. knowing that the 1 in 17 represents 10
- Read and write numbers up to 100 as words
- Count in 2s, 3s and 5s
- Compare and order numbers up to 100
- Use the $<$ and $>$ symbols to represent the relative size of numbers

Calculations

- Recall number bonds up to 20 fluently
- Add and subtract numbers mentally and using objects, including two-digit numbers
- Show that adding two numbers can be done in any order, but subtracting cannot
- Recognise that addition and subtraction are inverse operations
- Learn the multiplication and division facts for the 2x, 5x and 10x tables
- Show that multiplying two numbers can be done in any order, but dividing cannot
- Solve problems using the $\times$ and $\div$ symbols

Fractions

- Find $\frac{1}{4}$, $\frac{2}{4}$ and $\frac{3}{4}$ of an object or set of objects
- Find the answer to simple fraction problems, such as finding $\frac{1}{2}$ of 6

Measurements

- Use standard units to measure length (centimetres and metres), mass (grams and kilograms), temperature (degrees Celsius) and capacity (millilitres and litres)
- Use the £ and p symbols for money amounts
- Combine numbers of coins to make a given value, for example to make 62 pence
- Tell the time to the nearest five minutes on an analogue clock
- Know the number of minutes in an hour and hours in a day

Shape

- Identify the number of sides and a line of symmetry on 2-d shapes
- Identify the number of faces, edges and vertices on 3-d shapes
- Use mathematical language to describe position and direction, including rotations and turns

Graphs and Data

- Construct and understand simple graphs such as bar charts and pictograms

Parent Tip

Parents can always take a lead role in practical maths. Encouraging your child to help with the purchasing of small items at the newsagent, or measuring themselves and others, is a great way to start exploring number relationships.

Using this guide

Schools are allowed to reorganise content between year groups as long as the material is covered by the end of primary school. Your school may therefore make some changes to the teaching sequence – check your child's school's website for details on how they organise their curriculum.