

How to help at home: Year 1

Maths

Tips & strategies:

Counting, counting and counting! Wherever you can! This will really help secure your child's number fluency of the number system and support them with their understanding of place value.

Counting 'games'/tips

- Climbing the stairs to bed – count in 1s, 2s, 5s, 10s
- Will we reach 100 by the time you have brushed your teeth?
- How many steps do we walk on the way to school?
- Pick a number between 1-10 and count up to...
- Rocket take off – count down from 10 to see who can get in to the car/get dressed/get their shoes on the quickest.

Numbers in our world

Look out for numbers wherever you can and discuss the digits with your child e.g. number 23 on your road (or any other house or car!) ask your child 'what is that number?' 'How do you know?' encourage them to tell you the value of the digits e.g. the 2 digit is 2 tens (20) and there's 3 ones – so the number is 2 tens and 3 more – 23!

Games:

Counting your steps as you go from one room to another. Which room is the furthest away from your bedroom? Can you count the steps?

I am thinking of a number game 'I am thinking of a number, it is one more than 9 and one less than 11, what is my number?'

Ping pong counting: Agree on what kind of voice you are going to do to count e.g. mouse, robot, whisper, giant voice and count alternate numbers child starts '1', adult '2' etc. You can do this game counting in 2s, 5s, or 10s

Bath time fun! If your child has goggles and likes going for a 'swim' at bath time (or alternatively play this at swimming!) ask them to go under water and count your fingers!

Websites:

<https://www.topmarks.co.uk/>

A website full of amazing interactive games that we use right here in school! (There's also not just Maths, there is a whole range of subjects!) We use this a lot in class!

<https://www.primarygames.co.uk/pg2/splat/splatsq100.html>

Splat square is extremely effective for consolidating counting up in numbers and time tables. It is a great tool for spotting number patterns – children can look closely at the tens and ones in numbers up to 100. It is also useful as a resource to support addition and subtraction within one hundred. (Top tip – turn the sound up when you splat!)

Mental Fluency

Throughout the year, your child will focus on these different mental strategies. To support your child you could give them different calculations and ask them which strategy they would use and why in order to solve the answer.

MA1: Manipulate Calculation

$$16 + 9 = 25$$

Diagram showing the manipulation of 16 + 9 = 25. 16 is split into 15 and 1, and 9 is split into 1 and 8. 15 + 10 = 25.

MA2: Round & Adjust

$$45 + 9 = 54$$

Diagram showing the rounding and adjusting strategy for 45 + 9 = 54. 45 + 10 = 55, then 55 - 1 = 54.

MA3: Partitioning

$$8 + 6 = 14$$

Diagram showing the partitioning strategy for 8 + 6 = 14. 8 is split into 8 and 2, and 6 is split into 2 and 4. 8 + 2 = 10, then 10 + 4 = 14.

MA4a: Counting On

$$12 + 5 = 17$$

Diagram showing the counting on strategy for 12 + 5 = 17. 12 is in a cloud, and 5 is added to reach 17.

MA4b: Counting On

$$57 + 10 = 67$$

Diagram showing the counting on strategy for 57 + 10 = 67. 57 is in a cloud, and 10 is added to reach 67.

MA5: Double & Adjust

$$5 + 6 = 11$$

Diagram showing the double and adjust strategy for 5 + 6 = 11. 5 + 5 = 10, then 10 + 1 = 11.

MA6: Number Bonds

Diagram showing number bonds for 10 and 20. For 10: 0+10, 1+9, 2+8, 3+7, 4+6, 5+5, 6+4, 7+3, 8+2, 9+1, 10+0. For 20: 0+20, 10+10, 1+19, 2+18, 3+17, 4+16, 5+15, 6+14, 7+13, 8+12, 9+11, 10+10, 11+9, 12+8, 13+7, 14+6, 15+5, 16+4, 17+3, 18+2, 19+1, 20+0.



Spelling

Tips & Strategies:

- LOOK, SAY, COVER, WRITE, CHECK
- Pyramid words (build words up a letter at a time
e.g. if spelling the word cat: c
 c a
 c a t
- Rainbow words (using colours to help spell can make parts of words memorable. Children can write words in different colours or choose one colour and then go over the words repeatedly with other colours etc.).
- Create a mnemonic (for example to help remember 'ould' in 'could' – **oh you lucky duck**)
- Write the words in sand, bubbles in the bath etc.
- Children are expected to spell the 100 Year 1 High Frequency Words by the end of the year (currently weekly spellings).
- Use magnetic letters to spell words.
- Play hide and seek with words or letters – can the children find all of the post-its? Can they make a word with the letters?

Phonics:

Children have been taught the Phase 3 sounds in Reception. Children will be learning Phase 5 sounds in Year 1, and so practicing spelling words with these sounds at home would be useful.

Websites:

An interactive way to engage the children with phonics games and early reading.

<https://www.abcmouse.com/>

<https://readingeggs.co.uk/>

<https://www.phonicsplay.co.uk>

Writing, grammar and punctuation

Tips & Strategies:

- Children need to be able to form letters accurately and use handwriting lines effectively.
- Children need to be able to confidently verbalise their ideas for writing before being expected to take pencil to paper.
- Children need to be able to recount events in the past tense.
- Special notepads/diaries/pencils/pencil toppers can be great incentives to promote a positive attitude towards (and love for) writing.
- Children need to be able to write simple sentences with a capital letter at the start and a full stop at the end.
- Children should be able to recognise when words are missing from sentences and edit them accordingly.
- Children should be able to use noun phrases to describe e.g. Tall tree.

Websites

<https://www.onceuponapicture.co.uk/>

A lovely website full of inspiring images to help inspire minds and respond to thought provoking questions. This website is also wonderful for developing comprehension and can be used to develop oral skills.

<https://www.pobble365.com/>

As above, this website has a photograph for every day of the year and has so many fantastic resources to inspire children's writing and written responses.

[THE LITERACY SHED - Home](#)

An inspiring website full of short videos to inspire and engage. Each video comes with a selection of follow up questions and activities that are perfect for promoting a love of writing.

Reading

Tips & Strategies: Embed a feeling of excitement around reading; it should not be a chore!

- Read with the children as often as possible. This does not need to be the children reading all the time. It can be you reading to them and discussing books. Ensure that they understand new vocabulary and discuss possible options.
- Choose a special designated place to read. Somewhere it can just be you two reading together.
- You don't need to read the entire book every night. Look at the 'comprehension skills' section before to find out some more!
- Ask the children to read the shopping list or price labels at the supermarket.