

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 16 + 9 = 25. A bracket groups 15 from 16 and 1 from 9, with an arrow pointing to 15 + 10 = 25.

MA2: Round & Adjust

$$45 + 9 = 54$$

$$45 + 10 - 1 = 54$$

$$55 - 1 = 54$$

Diagram showing 45 + 9 = 54. A bracket groups 45 and 10 from 9, with an arrow pointing to 45 + 10 = 55. Another arrow points from 55 to 54, labeled -1.

MA3: Partitioning

$$8 + 6 = 14$$

$$8 + 2 + 4 = 14$$

Diagram showing 8 + 6 = 14. A bracket groups 8 and 2 from 6, with an arrow pointing to 8 + 2 = 10. Another arrow points from 10 to 14, labeled +4.

MA4a: Counting On

$$12 + 5 = 17$$

Diagram showing 12 + 5 = 17. A bracket groups 12 and 5, with an arrow pointing to 17.

MA4b: Counting On

$$57 + 10 = 67$$

Diagram showing 57 + 10 = 67. A bracket groups 57 and 10, with an arrow pointing to 67.

MA5: Double & Adjust

$$5 + 6 = 11$$

$$5 + 5 + 1 = 11$$

$$10 + 1 = 11$$

Diagram showing 5 + 6 = 11. A bracket groups 5 and 5 from 6, with an arrow pointing to 5 + 5 = 10. Another arrow points from 10 to 11, labeled +1.

MA6: Number Bonds

Learn Bonds	0 + 10 = 10	0 + 10 = 10
1 + 9 = 10	1 + 9 = 10	1 + 9 = 10
2 + 8 = 10	2 + 8 = 10	2 + 8 = 10
3 + 7 = 10	3 + 7 = 10	3 + 7 = 10
4 + 6 = 10	4 + 6 = 10	4 + 6 = 10
5 + 5 = 10	5 + 5 = 10	5 + 5 = 10
6 + 4 = 10	6 + 4 = 10	6 + 4 = 10
7 + 3 = 10	7 + 3 = 10	7 + 3 = 10
8 + 2 = 10	8 + 2 = 10	8 + 2 = 10
9 + 1 = 10	9 + 1 = 10	9 + 1 = 10
10 + 0 = 10	10 + 0 = 10	10 + 0 = 10



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
ca
cat)
- 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' – **o**h **y**ou **l**ucky **d**uck)
- Write the words in sand, bubbles in the bath etc.
- 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.

Listening to your child read their Bug Club Phonics book which they bring home every Friday will support them with their fluency in reading. This book focusses on the graphemes learnt the previous week in phonics, allowing the children to consolidate their phonics knowledge of those graphemes.

Phonics Bug has lots of books which we are assigning to the children each week. These relate to the sound that we have covered that week. These will be online and we will also set some games focusing on specific sounds.

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.