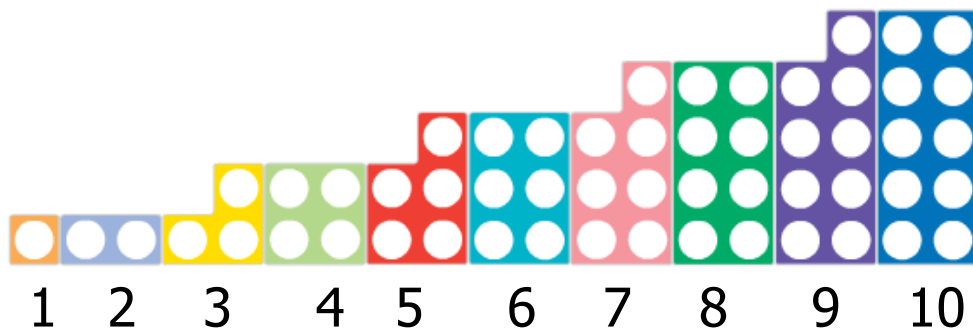


Homework activities for Numicon

All children in Reception are given a set of Numicon to take home and play with to support their maths learning. Your child is familiar with Numicon through maths sessions at school. The resource will be used throughout Years 1 and 2 and so we ask you to play some of the activities below with your child. The school will request the return of the resource in Year 2 so that it can be passed on to other children.

Ordering

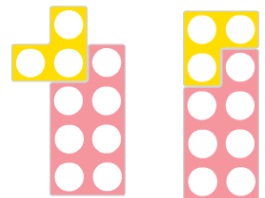


Please encourage your child to count up pointing at each shape to begin counting up and back from 10. To begin with they will be counting the number of holes, but we want to develop children's recognition of numbers without counting. Numicon can be useful as they can begin to recognise the numbers of the Numicon by their shape and colour as a particular number. Ask them to find the blue one. Which number is that worth? Find the red one. What number is that worth?

Repeated practice will help children do so with increased speed and efficiency. You can also use the dots on dice to help children develop recognition of a group as a number.

Making Shapes

Numicon can develop children's ability to rotate shapes so encourage the children to play around with making shapes out of the Numicon. Sometimes children place them together without turning them or rotating them, which means that they will not see the link with number bonds as they go through the school. Encourage your child to make rectangles.



One more, one less

Line the shapes up in order and add the one to each shape to work out what one more would be. Please make sure that you model the language that they should use, so "one more than 5 is 6".

You can then work out one less by putting the one **on top** of the shape to see how much of the 5 is left. So one less than 5 is 4.



Odd and even

Encourage your child to put the Numicon in order and then put all the odd numbers together and all of the even numbers together. Encourage them to look for the differences between them – all the odd numbers have a bit sticking out or 'an odd one out', 'without a partner', whereas all the even numbers do have a partner.



Make number sentences



1 + 2

=



3

In Reception, children are encouraged to make simple number sentences – with a particular focus on addition and subtraction (number bonds) for numbers up to 5. Try to use a variety of vocabulary. Below are just a few ideas:

- =, is the same as, makes
- +, plus, more than, together
- -, take away, minus, less



3

is the same as 2 + 1



2

+ 1

Find 2 shapes that make 1 shape (number bonds)



$6+0=6$



$5+1=6$



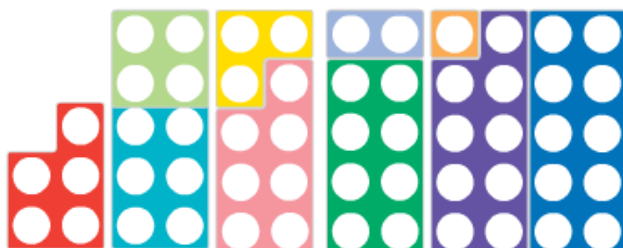
$4+2=6$



$3+3=6$

Each child only has one of each shape, so please encourage them to start thinking about what would add onto the 3 to make 6, or the 5 to make 10. If they put the 3 on top of the 6, see if they can recognise that as a 3.

Recognise number bonds to 10



Numicon is very useful for teaching the number bonds to 10, which are used throughout their primary school career. Practise putting the Numicon with the bond to 10, by finding the 10 and putting a shape on top and then looking to see which shape will cover the rest of the 10. If appropriate, practise writing the number sentence (i.e. $7+3=10$).

Please visit www.williamtyndale-islington.co.uk/Mathematics to see the calculation policy.

[William-Tyndale-Calculation-Policy-2016.pdf](#)

Also go on BBC Numberblocks for songs, puzzles and games.

Thank you very much to the F&SA who have supplied reception, Year 1 and 2 with this excellent resource for use at home.

Nicola Stone

Maths Subject Leader