



Early Years Foundation Stage Mathematical Language

Counting number zero, one, two, three... to twenty and beyond zero, ten, twenty... one hundred none how many...? count, count (up) to count on (from, to) count back (from, to) count in ones, twos... tens... more, less, many, few odd, even every other how many times? pattern, pair guess how many, estimate nearly, close to, about the same as just over, just under too many, too few, enough, not enough		Comparing and ordering numbers the same number as, as many as <i>Of two objects/amounts:</i> greater, more, larger, bigger less, fewer, smaller <i>Of three or more objects/amounts:</i> greatest, most, biggest, largest least, fewest, smallest one more, ten more one less, ten less compare order size first, second, third... tenth last, last but one before, after next between above, below
Adding and subtracting add, more, and make, sum, total altogether score double one more, two more, ten more... how many more to make... ? how many more is... than...? take (away), leave how many are left/left over? how many have gone? one less, two less... ten less... how many fewer is... than...? difference between is the same as		Solving problems Reasoning about numbers or shapes pattern puzzle answer right, wrong what could we try next? how did you work it out? count, sort group, set match same, different list costs the same as how much...? how many...? total
Problems involving 'real life' or money		Measures (general)
compare double half, halve pair count out, share out left, left over money coin penny, pence, pound price cost buy sell	spend, spent pay change dear, costs more cheap, costs less, cheaper	measure size compare guess, estimate enough, not enough too much, too little too many, too few nearly, close to, about the same as just over, just under



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Length length, width, height, depth long, short, tall high, low wide, narrow deep, shallow thick, thin longer, shorter, taller, higher... and so on longest, shortest, tallest, highest... and so on far, near, close	Mass weigh, weighs, balances heavy/light, heavier/lighter, heaviest/lightest balance, weight, scales Capacity full half full empty holds container	
Time time <i>days of the week:</i> Monday, Tuesday... day, week birthday, holiday morning, afternoon, evening, night bedtime, dinnertime, playtime today, yesterday, tomorrow before, after next, last now, soon, early, late quick, quicker, quickest, quickly slow, slower, slowest, slowly old, older, oldest new, newer, newest takes longer, takes less time hour, o'clock clock, watch, hands	Exploring patterns, shape and space shape, pattern flat curved, straight round hollow, solid corner face, side, edge, end sort make, build, draw	
	2D shapes circle triangle square oblong star	3D shapes cube cuboid pyramid sphere cone
Patterns and symmetry size bigger, larger, smaller symmetrical pattern repeating pattern match	Position, direction and movement position over, under above, below top, bottom, side on, in outside, inside around in front, behind front, back before, after beside, next to opposite apart between middle, edge corner direction left, right up, down forwards, backwards, sideways across close, far, near along through to, from, towards, away from movement slide roll turn stretch, bend	