

# Nursery: Maths objectives

- Fast recognition of up to 3 objects, without having to count them individually ('subitising').
  - Recite numbers past 5.
  - Say one number for each item in order: 1,2,3,4,5.
  - Know that the last number reached when counting a small set of objects tells you how many there are in total ('cardinal principle').
  - Show 'finger numbers' up to 5.
  - Link numerals and amounts: for example, showing the right number of objects to match the numeral, up to 5.
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- Experiment with their own symbols and marks as well as numerals.
  - Solve real world mathematical problems with numbers up to 5.
  - Compare quantities using language: 'more than', 'fewer than'.
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- Talk about and explore 2D and 3D shapes (for example, circles, rectangles, triangles and cuboids) using informal and mathematical language: 'sides', 'corners'; 'straight', 'flat', 'round'.
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- Understand position through words alone – for example, "The bag is under the table," – with no pointing.
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- Describe a familiar route.
  - Discuss routes and locations, using words like 'in front of' and 'behind'.
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- Make comparisons between objects relating to size, length, weight and capacity.
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- Select shapes appropriately: flat surfaces for building, a triangular prism for a roof etc.
  - Combine shapes to make new ones – an arch, a bigger triangle etc.
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- Talk about and identifies the patterns around them. For example: stripes on clothes, designs on rugs and wallpaper. Use informal language like 'pointy', 'spotty', 'blobs' etc.
  - Extend and create ABAB patterns – stick, leaf, stick, leaf.
  - Notice and correct an error in a repeating pattern.
  - Begin to describe a sequence of events, real or fictional, using words such as 'first', 'then...'