

Maths Week Scotland

Early Level

Welcome to Maths Week Scotland!

Maths Week Scotland is taking place 28 September – 4 October 2020.
Celebrate with online events and activities for school and home.

This pack contains ways to celebrate and enjoy Maths Week Scotland with your early years children, either at home or school. Online versions are available at www.mathsweek.scot

We would love to see what you get up to. Share your celebrations with us on [Twitter @MathsWeekScot](#) [#MathsWeekScot](#) and [@edscot_maths](#)

ACTIVITY IDEAS

Number of the Day



Pick a number each day of Maths Week and do a daily activity for that number.

- Find things with that number of parts or pieces
- Draw a number with something unusual e.g. clothes, pasta, crayons
- Work in small groups and represent numbers using your bodies

Camping Adventure

Start with a storytelling session about camping. For example Boris Goes Camping, Arthur Goes to Camp, or P.J Funnybunny Camps Out.

Ask children what they would need to go camping and encourage them to hunt around the room or outside for objects they might need. Sort these objects into themes such as shelter, cooking, fire building. Which theme has the most objects?

Build a tent using material, sticks, string and other items. What shape works best? How many sticks are needed? How many people or toys can fit inside your tent?

OUTDOORS

Making Potions

Use maths to take children on a magical adventure!

Gather natural materials or other classroom items such as pebbles, coins, shells, leaves etc. Decide what you want your potion to do. Make you invisible? Be able to fly?

Provide containers of coloured water with utensils such as ladles or whisks.

Together, estimate how many cups it will take to fill each container. Whilst filling them, discuss empty, half-empty and full.



Give the children instructions for making their potions like this example.

Nature Book



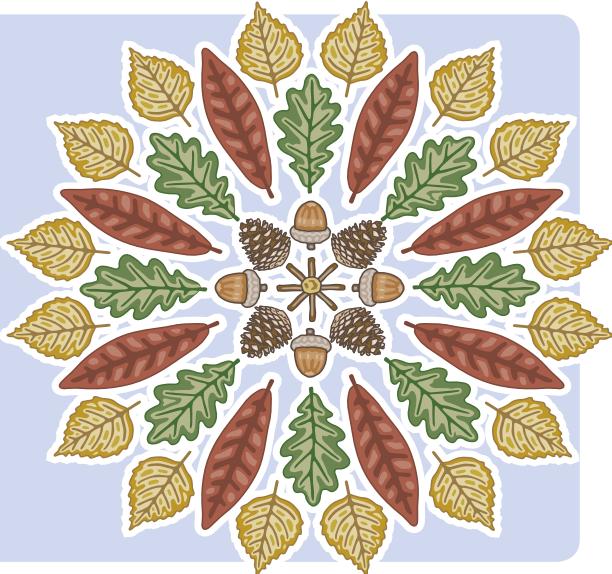
Create a book exploring numbers using natural materials.

Pages could include:

- 1 petal, 2 leaves, 3 twigs
- Symmetrical pattern of twigs
- Round items
- Items longer than 6cm

Natural Art

Work together to create amazing symmetrical patterns using only natural resources.



Number Hunt

Create a number hunt in your outdoor space.

- Place signs with the numbers 1–20 in an open space

- Prepare a selection of cards with numbers represented in different ways such as digit, dots, domino, finger pattern
- Ask children to go and find all the different versions of a number

MATHS AT WORK

Maths is important in a huge range of jobs and careers.

Invite family members to share stories of maths in their work or look for maths in your local community. Use the activities below to take on the role of chef, builder or engineer to explore the maths they use in their jobs.

Chef

Plan a Maths Week Scotland party for the end of the week.

- Think about the cost of items. What coins would you need to pay for them exactly?
- Do some simple baking or food preparation at home. Can they measure the ingredients using scales?

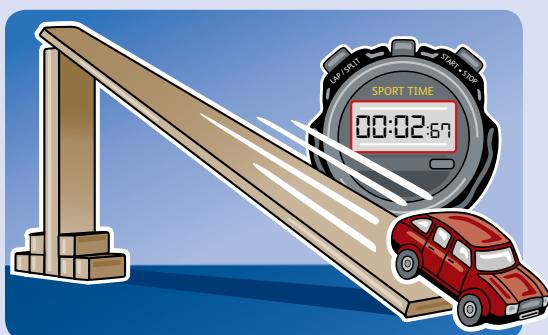
Builder

Build an extension for your house, nursery or school.

- Create models using blocks, materials and measuring equipment
- Build a shelter using recycled material, furniture or toys. Encourage creativity with different designs and approaches

Civil Engineer

Build a ramp for toy cars. Try building multiple ramps with different surfaces, lengths or steepness.



- Estimate how long it will take for the car to travel down the ramp
- Use stopwatches to time how long they take
- Estimate how far it will travel after the end of the ramp
- Measure the distance it travels using measuring tapes, hand spans, footsteps. Discuss why some of these are more accurate than others.

Mechanical Engineer

Discover ways to move water from one location to another.

- Find different containers which can carry water. Experiment to find out if they are water-tight
- Use different size jugs to fill the containers using language such as full/half-full/empty
- Estimate how many jugs it will take to fill the containers
- Expand this activity by building an outdoor water table using old pipes

STEM Ambassadors

STEM Ambassadors are people working in STEM industries or with an interest in STEM available to talk to classes, run activities or help you plan sessions related to their work.

Browse [STEM Ambassador offers](#) or [request support](#) to bring maths at work to life.

Musical Maths

Song and rhyme can be a fun way to explore numeracy.

Sing the number rhyme – 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 with your child. A copy can be found [here](#).

Ask your child to consider a different ending.

1, 2, 3, 4, 5 once I caught a

Questions you may wish to ask (numbers can be changed to suit):

- Which number comes before/after?
- How many different ways can you show me 5?
- How many fingers am I showing? How many more to make...?
- Can you count backwards from 5 or 10?

Sing the number rhyme **Five little men in a flying saucer**. A copy can be found [here](#).

Ask your child to consider a different version.

Five _____ in a _____

Questions you may wish to ask (numbers can be changed to suit):

- I am going to count to 5 or 10 and clap where a missing number is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5... Which number did I clap on?
- If I have 7 animals and I want them in different fields, how many different ways can I split them?
- I have 3p, but I need 10p to buy a sweet, how much more do I need?
- If you know that $3 + 7 = 10$, what else do you know?

MATHS WEEK SCOTLAND COMPETITIONS

Maths Inside

Get your cameras ready to get out and about and find the *Maths Inside* your daily life.

The Maths Inside photography competition has categories for early years up to adult so teachers and parents can enter too!

Enter at <https://mathsinside.com/#about>

FIND MORE

Head to the Maths Week Scotland website www.mathsweek.scot for more activities for Early Years and free online CLPL opportunities.

Scotland Learns website:

- [Data analysis and keeping fit and healthy](#)
- [Measure in sport](#)
- [Chance and uncertainty through sport and physical activity](#)

[Family](#) – Creative early years maths activities.

[Parentzone Scotland](#) – Supporting numeracy at home.



Education
Scotland
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