

Early Years Mathematical Vocabulary

Number

Number, zero, number one, two, three ... to twenty and beyond teen numbers, eleven, twelve ... twenty How many ...?

Count, count up, count on, count back count in ones, twos, fives, tens

The same as, more, less, fewer, greater, greatest, largest, least, fewest, odd, even, few, pattern

First, second, third... twentieth last, last but one before, after, next, between

Guess how many ...? Estimate, nearly, close to, about the same as, just over, just under, too many, too few, enough, not enough

Add, plus, take away, altogether, is equal to, one more, one less, the difference, equation ,problem, solve. How many more? How many less? How many are left?

Sharing, halving, doubling, the same, equal, whole, part, group. Is it fair? Are they the same? How many groups have you made?



Shape Space and Measure

Size, compare, guess, estimate, order.

Length, height, width, long, short, tall, high, low, wide, narrow, thick, thin, longer, shorter, taller, higher ... longest, shortest, tallest, highest ...far, near, close

Weight, weighs, balances, heavy, light, heavier than, lighter than, heaviest, lightest, scales

Full, empty, half full, holds, container, nearly empty, nearly full

Time, days of the week, week, birthday, season, morning, afternoon, evening, night, bedtime, dinner time, playtime, today, yesterday, tomorrow, before, after next, last now, soon, early, late

Quick, quicker, quickest, quickly, slow, slower, slowest, slowly, takes longer, takes less, time, hour, o'clock, clock, watch, hands.

Money, coin, penny, pence, pound, price, cost, buy, sell, spend, spent, pay. How much?

Shape, pattern, flat curved, straight, round, hollow, solid, sort, make, build, symmetrical pattern, repeating pattern, match

2D shape, corner, side, rectangle (including square) circle, triangle, pentagon, hexagon.

3D shape, face, edge, vertex, vertices, cube, pyramid sphere, cone, cuboid.

Position, over, under, above, below, top, bottom, side on, in, outside, inside, around, in front, behind front, back, beside, next to, opposite, apart, between, middle, edge, corner, direction, left, right up, down, forwards, backwards, sideways, across next to, close, near, far.