

Maths Nursery Termly Overview

Our Nursery Maths Curriculum at Endeavour Academy is designed to build strong foundations and ensure smooth progression into Reception. It is fully aligned with the **Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS)** framework and **Development Matters**, and is delivered using the small steps from the NCETM progression grid and The Learning Trajectories as a guiding structure. These grids focus on six key areas of early mathematical development: cardinality and counting, comparison, composition, pattern, shape and space, and measures.

Termly Progression Overview

Mathematical strands are introduced at developmentally appropriate points and revisited throughout the year to deepen understanding:

- **Autumn Term** – Pre-counting skills such as pattern, sorting, and comparison
- **Spring Term** – Counting, cardinality (understanding “howmanyess”), and composition (recognising how numbers are made up of smaller numbers)
- **Summer Term** – Shape, space, measure, and further comparison

Maths Delivery in Nursery

Maths is taught through:

- **Daily direct teaching sessions** in small groups
- **Follow-up activities** embedded in continuous provision
- **Integration into daily routines** such as singing, stories, and counting during snack time or registration

Embedded Knowledge and Skills

Children revisit and apply mathematical concepts throughout the year in a variety of playful and practical ways:

- Singing the days of the week and discussing the calendar
- General counting (e.g. counting fruit at snack time)
- Counting songs and use of ordinal numbers (e.g. “first,” “second”)

Maths Nursery Termly Overview

- Maths games like track counting
- Observing maths in the environment (e.g. noticing shapes or sizes in nature)
- Matching numerals to quantities in play areas (e.g. finger gym activities)
- Using number representations in routines (e.g. clapping for absent children, how many children are in today)

This approach ensures that maths is not only taught but lived—woven into the fabric of everyday nursery life, helping children develop confidence, curiosity, and readiness for Reception.

	Area of Learning	Pattern	Pattern	Pattern	Pattern	Measure	Comparison
Autumn	Maths Strand	Identifying and Matching Colours	Sorting	Talk about and identify patterns	Creating own and correcting AB patterns	Using Language of Size	Comparing
	DM link	Talk about and identifying patterns around them	Make comparisons between objects	Talk about and identifying the patterns around them using informal languages Extend ABAB patterns	Create ABAB patterns Notice and correct and error in a repeating pattern	Make comparisons between objects relating to size	Compare quantities using language ‘more than and fewer than’
	Suggested Resources	The Usborne Big Book of Colours Monsters Love Colours – Mike Austin	Sort it Out! – Barbara Mariconda Sorting at the market – Tracey		Pattern Fish – Trudy Harris Lots and lots of Zebra Stripes – Stephen R. Swinburne	Big Bear, Small Mouse – Karma Wilson & Jane Chapman	NCETM Early Years Typical Progression Chart – Comparison

Maths Nursery Termly Overview

Spring	Area of Learning	Cardinality, Counting, Composition, Shape						
	Maths Strand	Understanding Number 1	Understanding Number 2	Understanding Number 3	Understanding Number 4	Understanding Number 5	Problems within 5	
	DM link	Developing subitising to 3 Experiment with own symbols and marks Talk about and explore 2D shapes Say one number name, show fingers up to 5	Developing subitising to 3 Experiment with own symbols and marks Talk about and explore 2D shapes Say one number name, show fingers up to 5	Developing subitising to 3 Experiment with own symbols and marks Talk about and explore 2D shapes Say one number name, show fingers up to 5	Developing subitising to 3 Experiment with own symbols and marks Talk about and explore 2D shapes Say one number name, show fingers up to 5	Developing subitising to 3 Experiment with own symbols and marks Talk about and explore 2D shapes Say one number name, show fingers up to 5	Developing subitising to 3 Experiment with own symbols and marks Talk about and explore 2D shapes Say one number name, show fingers up to 5	Solve Real World Problems with numbers to 5
	Suggested Resources	Number Blocks Series 1: One;	Number Blocks Series 1: 2	Early Years activities - number NRICH Number blocks Series The Three Little Pigs The Three Billy Goats Gruff	Number Blocks - Series 1: Four	Number Blocks - Series 1: five Series 1: How to count Series 1: The whole of me		5 current buns 5 little men in a flying saucer
Summer	Area of Learning	Shape and Space	Measure	Measure and Comparison	Measure and Comparison	Measure and Comparison	Pattern and Measure	
	Maths Strand	2D and 3D shapes	Sequencing events	Length and Height - Comparisons	Weight	Capacity	Positional Language	
	DM link	Talk about and explore 2D and 3D shapes	Begin to describe a sequence of events	Make comparisons between objects relating to length and height	Make comparisons between objects relating to weight	Make comparisons between objects	Understand position through worlds	

