

Maths Progression Skills/knowledge for Foundation Stage 2021

Counting	Cardinality	Subitising and Number	Comparing	Addition and	Multiplying and
Includes verbal rote	Last number counted	conservation/Composition	Comparison of	subtraction and	Dividing &
counting and object	represents how many	Visual recognition of	quantities by	Composition	Fractions
counting	are in the set	quantity of items (without	identifying more and	-	
-		counting one by one) and	less		
		part-part-whole			
		relationships			
I am beginning to be	I can give you the	I can observe and track an	I am beginning to	I understand that a	I can share out a
aware of numbers.	correct number of items	item and have a sense of	differentiate between	few or many objects	small amount of
B25 R2 Number. May be	to 3/5 if you ask me.	many items.	amounts.	can be grouped	objects sometimes
aware of number names	B25 R4 Cardinality. In		B25 R1 `number.	together as a whole.	equally.
through their enjoyment	everyday situations,	I have a good number	Reacts to obvious	(Can see red and	-
of action rhymes and	takes or gives two or	sense of 1 and two items.	changes of amount	blue bricks	I can share out a
songs that relate to	three objects from a	B25 R3 Cardinality. Uses	when those amounts	separately but sees	small amount of
numbers.	group.	number words	are significant (more	them as a collective	items equally
DM Birth to 3. Take part		like one or two and	than double).	of bricks.)	between two or
in finger rhymes with	l can count out up to 3	sometimes responds	DM Birth to 3. React to		three people or
numbers.	fingers by opening them	accurately when asked to	changes of amount in	I understand part-	toys giving one at
	one by one slowly.	give one or two things.	a group of up to three	whole and can give	a time to each.
I am interested in			items.	you a part of a	
counting words and can	l can count out up to 5	I can recognise and make		whole amount if you	I can divide a
be a number chanter.	fingers by counting	collections of 1 to 3	I can put objects,	ask me to give you	larger amount of
B25 R3 Counting. Says	them one by one.	objects through matching	words or actions into	one.	objects.
some counting words.	B25 R4 Cardinality.	activities. I may not be	one to one, or many to		
	Beginning to count on	able to verbalise the	one correspondence,	I recognise when	l can see arrays in
I am beginning to count	their fingers.	words 1 to 3 yet.	such as in matching	something has been	photographs and
in sequence and may	DM 3&4 Yrs Show		activities. I may not	removed.	work out the
use my finger to tap or	'finger numbers' up to	I have a number sense of	know the number	<mark>B25</mark> R2 Number	whole or total.
point to count out	5.	1 to 3 objects or an	words yet.	Looks for things	
objects.		amount in a picture/on a		which have moved	I can equipartition
B25 R3 Counting. May	I understand that the	card and can verbalise	I can understand and	out of sight.	a paper 'cake' or
engage in counting-like	last number counted is	this.	use the words more or		playdough food to
behaviour, making	the total amount in the	B25 R5 Cardinality	lots.	I can add a small	share with a
sounds and pointing or	group. (Check this with	Subitises one, two and		amount of items	friend.

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				l can recognise
		like lots or more.		what is and what
count.)				is not a half.
B25 R5 Cardinality.		who has more or less		I can divide a
Counts up to five items,	('subitising').	or the same and may	verbalise this.	playdough pizza
recognising that the last		subitise. Later on, I		into different parts
number said represents	I can perceptually	may count to	I understand the	and talk about it.
the total counted so far	recognise items to 5.	compare.	whole is bigger than	
(cardinal principle).	B25 R6 Cardinality.	DM Birth to 3	the parts but may	
DM 3&4 Yrs Know that	Engages in subitising	Compare amounts,	not give an accurate	
the last number reached	numbers to four and	saying 'lots', 'more' or	answer to begin	
when counting a small	maybe five.	'same'.	with, I just recognise	
set of objects tells you	DM Rec Subitise.	25 R4 Comparison.	that it is a bigger	
how many there are in		Beginning to compare	number.	
total ('cardinal	I can separate a group of	and recognise changes		
principle').	items in different ways	in numbers of things,	I can solve practical	
	and realise the total is still	using words	and real-world	
	the same. I can do this to	like more, lots or same	mathematical	
I can count out up to 10	3 and then to 5.		problems through	
items accurately.	B25 R5 Separates a group	DM 3&4 Yrs Compare	play and using	
B25 R6 Cardinality.	of three or four objects in	quantities using	objects such as 'part	
Counts out up to 10	different ways, beginning	language: 'more than',	part whole' and	
objects from a larger	to recognise that the total	'fewer than'.	separating with	
group.	is still the same.	-	objects.	
		I am beginning to	B25 R5 Composition.	
I am beginning to notice	I can conceptually subitise	perceptually compare	Beginning to use	
numerals in my	an amount to 5 and work	or match small	understanding of	
environment.	out different combinations	amount of similar or	number to solve	
B25 R4 Cardinality.	of parts to get a whole.	dissimilar collections (I	practical problems in	
Beginning to notice	B25 R5 Composition.	may count or subitise	play and meaningful	
numerals (number	Through play and	these).	activities.	
symbols).		B25 R5 Comparison.	DM 3&4 Yrs Solve	
-	learn that numbers are	Compares two small	real world	
		groups of up to five	mathematical	
	recognising that the last number said represents the total counted so far (cardinal principle). DM 3&4 Yrs Know that the last number reached when counting a small set of objects tells you how many there are in total ('cardinal principle'). I can count out up to 10 items accurately. B25 R6 Cardinality. Counts out up to 10 objects from a larger group. I am beginning to notice numerals in my environment. B25 R4 Cardinality. B25 R4 Cardinality.	 give me one, give me two and do not stop the child if they continue to count.) B25 R5 Cardinality. Counts up to five items, recognising that the last number said represents the total counted so far (cardinal principle). DM 3&4 Yrs Know that the last number reached when counting a small set of objects tells you how many there are in total ('cardinal principle'). I can count out up to 10 objects from a larger group. I am beginning to notice numerals in my environment. B25 R4 Cardinality. B25 R4 Cardinality. I am beginning to notice numerals (number symbols). three objects (without counting). DM 3&4 Yrs Develop fast recognition of up to 3 objects, without having to count them individually ('subitising'). I can perceptually recognise items to 5. B25 R6 Cardinality. DM Rec Subitise. DM Rec Subitise. I can separate a group of items in different ways and realise the total is still the same. I can conceptually subitise an amount to 5 and work out different combinations of parts to get a whole. B25 R5 Composition. Through play and exploration, beginning to 	give me one, give me two and do not stop the child if they continue to count.)three objects (without counting).B25 R3 Comparison. Responds to words like lots or more.B25 R5 Cardinality. Counts up to five items, recognising that the last number said represents the total counted so far (cardinal principle).I can perceptually recognise items to 5.I can perceptually recognise items to 5.I can perceptually recognise items to 5.DM 3&4 Yrs Know that the last number reached when counting a small set of objects tells you how many there are in total ('cardinal principle').I can separate a group of items accurately.I can separate a group of items and then to 5.DM 3&4 Yrs Compare or 'same'.I can count out up to 10 tems accurately.I can conceptually subitise and realise the total is still the same. I can do this to 3 and then to 5.DM 3&4 Yrs Compare and realise that the total is still the same.I am beginning to notice numerals in my environment.I can conceptually subitise an amount to 5 and work out different combinations of parts to get a whole.I am beginning to perceptually compare or match small amount of similar or dissimilar collections (I may count or subitise through play and exploration, beginning to perceptually compares on.	give me one, give me two and do not stop the child if they continue to count.)three objects (without counting).225 R3 Comparison. Responds to words like lots or more.together and show understanding with a matching corresponding amount even though I can visually estimate who has more or less or the same and may subitise. Later on, I may count to compare amounts, saying 'lots', 'more' or 'same'.together and show understanding with a matching corresponding amount even though I may not be able to verbalise this.202 202 202 202 202 202 202 202 202 202 202 202 202 202 202 202 202 202 202



I realise that anything can be countedI am beginning to link numerals to a specific amount with objects and during interactive games.made up (composed) of smaller numbers.objects, saying when there are the same number of objects in each group, e.g. You've got two, I've got two. Same!problems with numers up to 5.I can count out to 5 werbally and may be able to count out 5 objects. I have found it helpful to line them up or move them whilst counting.I am beginning to link numerals with amounts up to 5 and maybe beyond.made up (composed) of smaller numbers.objects, saying when there are the same numbers of objects in e.g. You've got two, I've got two. Same!I am beginning to understand the conceptually subitise.I can use things such as a able to count out 5 objects. I have found it helpful to line them up or move them whilst counting.I am beginning to use and amounts: for example, showing the right number of objects to match the numeral, up to 5.I can recognise my bithday number.I am seginning to understand the conceptually and may be able to count out 5 objects. I have found it helpful to line them up or move them whilst conting.I can recognise my bithday number.I can use conceptual subitising to group smaller amounts into a whole amount. (Part, part whole or varying combinations.)I can identify and use ordinal numbers orally to 5 and beyond.I can add one and subtract one from a	
can be counted DM Rec Count objects, actions and sounds.amount with objects and during interactive games.I can use things such as a 5 frame or a 10 frame to conceptually subitise.number of objects in each group, e.g. You've got two, I've got two. Same!I am beginning to understand the concept of 1 more and 1 less.I can count out to 5 verbally and may be able to count out 5 objects. I have found it helpful to line them up or move them whilst counting.I can use things such as a 5 frame or a 10 frame to conceptually subitise.I can use things such as a 5 frame or a 10 frame to conceptually subitise.I am beginning to understand the concept of 1 more and 1 less.DM 3&4 Yrs Link numeral, up to 5.DM 3&4 Yrs Link numeral, up to 5.I can use conceptual subitising to group smaller amounts into a whole amount. (Part, part whole or varying combinations.)I am beginning to understand the concept and unmber sorally as the first and second teddy in sequence.I can use a number line whole or varying combinations.)I can use a number line whole or varying to 5 and beyond.I can add one and	
DM Rec Count objects, actions and sounds.and during interactive games.I can use things such as a 5 frame or a 10 frame to conceptually subitise.each group, e.g. You've got two, I've got two. Same!I am beginning to understand the concept of 1 more and 1 less.I can count out to 5 verbally and may be able to count out 5 objects. I have found it helpful to line them up or move them whilst counting.I can use things such as a 5 frame or a 10 frame to conceptually subitise.each group, e.g. You've got two, I've got two. Same!I am beginning to understand the concept of 1 more and 1 less.DM 3&4 Yrs Link numerals and amounts: for example, showing the right number of objects to match the numeral, up to 5.I can use conceptual swith a wide range of objects.I am beginning to understand the counting.I am beginning to understand the concept of 1 more a mental number line to position a given number.DM 3&4 Yrs Recite numbers past 5.I can use a number line to 5 to position aI can use conceptual subitising to group smaller amounts into a whole or varying combinations.)I can identify and use original numbers orally to 5 and beyond.I can add one and	
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numbers past 5. I can use a number line to 5 to position a combinations.) ordinal numbers orally to 5 and beyond. I can add one and	
to 5 to position a <u>combinations.</u>) to 5 and beyond. I can add one and	
L can rate count 1 to 10 number when shown 0 B25 R6 Composition	
and beyond. and 5. Begins to conceptually I can compare given number to 10	
B25 R5 Counting. May subitise larger numbers by numbers to 10 and and say how many I	
enjoy counting verbally I can order dotted cards subitising smaller groups beyond even if one set have altogether. I	
as far as they can go. or stones to 5 in the within the number, e.g. of objects is a larger may just know this	
DM 3&4 Yrs Recite correct sequence. sees six raisins on a plate physical size than the without having to	
numbers past 5. as three and three. other. recount.	
DM Rec Count beyond I can order the DM Rec Explore the B25 R6 Comparison. 25 R6 Composition.	
10. numerals to 5 in the composition of numbers to Uses number names In practical activities,	
correct sequence. 10. and symbols when adds one and	
I can recognise comparing numbers, subtracts one with	
numerals to 5.I can order dottedI can recall number bondsshowing interest innumbers to 10.	
cards, stones etc or to 10 large numbers.	
I can recognise numbers numerals up to 10 in DM Rec Compare I can work out the	
up to 10. the correct sequence. numbers. missing addend or	



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B25 R5 Counting. Begin	B25 R6 Cardinality.	DM Rec Automatically		amount taken away	
to recognise numerals 0	Matches the numeral	recall number bonds for	I can estimate a larger	in a number problem	
to 10.	with a group of items to	numbers 0—10.	collection of items and	sentence (such as	
	show how many there		check by counting	you started with 10	
I can sequence 0-10 in	are (up to 10).		B25 R6 Comparison.	apples and now have	
order.	DM Rec Link the number		Estimates of numbers	5, what changed?).	
B25 R6 Counting.	symbol (numeral) with		of things, showing	B25 R6 Composition.	
Increasingly confident	its cardinal number		understanding of	Begins to explore	
at putting numerals in	value.		relative size.	and work out	
order 0 to 10				mathematical	
(ordinality).	I can represent amounts			problems, using	
5	using symbols and			signs and strategies	
	marks.			of their own choice,	
I can count backwards	I can represent amounts			including (when	
from 10 to 0 verbally or	using numerals.			appropriate)	
when moving objects	B25 R5 Cardinality.			standard numerals,	
from a group.	Explores using a range			tallies and "+" or "-	
B25 R6 Counting.	of their own marks and			"	
Enjoys reciting numbers	signs to which they				
from 0 to 10 (and	ascribe mathematical				
beyond) and back from	meanings.				
10 to 0.	DM 3&4 Yrs Experiment				
	with their own symbols				
I can count on from any	and marks as well as				
given number.	numerals.				
9					
I can tell you what					
number comes after or					
before a given number.					
l can see errors in					
other's counting or self-					
correct when counting.					
I can count in 10's and					
use patterns to count.					
	1	l	l	l	



Spatial awareness	Shape	Pattern	Measures
I can explore the space around me.	I can perceive the shape and size of	I am showing awareness of and	I can recognise similarities and
B25 R1 Explores space when they are	objects and begin matching and	beginning to anticipate patterns even if	differences in sizes, lengths, heights,
free to move, roll and stretch.	exploring.	I cannot verbalise it.	widths, weight and capacity. I can
B25 R1 Developing an awareness of	B25 R1 Beginning to put objects inside	B25 R1 Shows interest in patterned songs,	compare them as I order and/or build
their own bodies, that their body has	others and take them out again.	rhymes and movements.	and play. I can learn to use language
different parts and where these are	DM Birth to 3 Combine objects like		that relates to them.
in relation to each other.	stacking blocks and cups. Put objects	B25 R1 Experiences patterned objects and	
B25 R2 Explores space around them	inside others and take them out again.	images.	B25 R1 Responds to size, reacting to
and engages with position and	B25 R2 Stacks objects using flat surfaces.	5	very big or very small items that they
direction, such as pointing to where		B25 R1 Begins to predict what happens	see or try to pick up.
they would like to go.	I can compose shapes with anticipation	next in predictable situations.	B25 R2 Shows an interest in objects of
B25 R3 Investigates fitting	and fit pieces into the same shaped		contrasting sizes in meaningful
themselves inside and moving	'hole' such as an inset puzzle.	B25 R2 Joins in with repeated actions in	contexts.
through spaces.	B25 R2 Attempts, sometimes	songs and stories.	B25 R3 Shows an interest in size and
DM Birth to 3 Climb and squeezing	successfully, to match shapes with spaces		weight.
selves into different types of spaces.	on inset puzzles.	B25 R2 Initiates and continues repeated	DM Birth to 3 Compare sizes, weights
B25 R4 Moves their bodies and toys	DM Birth to 3 Complete inset puzzles.	actions.	etc. using gesture and language -
around objects and explores fitting	B25 R3 Pushes objects through different		'bigger/ little/smaller', 'high/low', 'tall',
into spaces.	shaped holes and attempts to fit shapes	B25 R3 Becoming familiar with patterns in	'heavy'.
	into spaces on inset boards or puzzles.	daily routines.	B25 R2 Shows an interest in emptying
I enjoy filling and emptying a			containers.
variety of containers.	I can use the actual shape or substitute	B25 R3 Joins in with and predicts what	B25 R3 Explores capacity by selecting,
B25 R3 Enjoys filling and emptying	it with smaller and different shapes.	comes next in a familiar story or rhyme.	filling and emptying containers e.g.
containers.	B25 R3 Beginning to select a shape for a		fitting toys in a pram.
	specific space.	B25 R3 Beginning to arrange items in their	B25 R4 Explores differences in size,
I can follow and use positional	B25 R4 Chooses puzzle pieces and tries to	own patterns, e.g. lining up toys.	length, weight and capacity.
language.	fit them in.	DM Birth to 3 Notice patterns and arrange	DM 3&4 Yrs Make comparisons between
B25 R4 Responds to some spatial		things in patterns.	objects relating to size, length, weight
and positional language.	I can build and play with shapes. I can		and capacity.
DM 3&4 Yrs Understands position	make shape pictures. At first these will	DM 3&4 Yrs Talk about and identify the	B25 R5 In meaningful contexts, finds the
through words alone – for example,	be simple and then they will become	patterns around them. For example:	longer or shorter, heavier or lighter and
"The bag is under the table," – with	more complex.	stripes on clothes, designs on rugs and	more/less full of two items.
no pointing.	B25 R3 Enjoys using blocks to create their	wallpaper. Use informal language like	B25 R6 Enjoys tackling problems
	own simple structures and arrangements.	'pointy', 'spotty', 'blobs' etc.	involving prediction and discussion of



B25 R5 Responds to and uses language of position and direction.

I can remember and talk about routes, viewpoints and maps. B25 R4 Begins to remember their way around familiar environments. DM 3&4 Yrs Describe a familiar route.

DM 3&4 Yrs Discuss routes and locations, using words like 'in front of' and 'behind'.

B25 R4 Explores how things look from different viewpoints including things that are near or far away.
B25 R6 Uses spatial language, including following and giving directions, using relative terms and describing what they see from different viewpoints.
B25 R6 May enjoy making simple

B25 R6 May enjoy making simple maps of familiar and imaginative environments, with landmarks.

I can use spacial awareness when creating shape pictures or structures.

B25 R5 Predicts, moves and rotates objects to fit the space or create the shape they would like.
B25 R6 Investigates turning and flipping objects in order to make shapes fit and create models;

DM Birth to 3 Build with a range of resources.

B25 R4 Makes simple constructions.

B25 R5 Chooses items based on their shape which are appropriate for the child's purpose.

DM 3&4 Yrs Select shapes appropriately: flat surfaces for building, a triangular prism for a roof etc.

B25 R5 Enjoys partitioning and combining shapes to make new shapes with 2D and 3D shapes.

DM 3&4 Yrs Combine shapes to make new ones – an arch, a bigger triangle etc.
B25 R5 Attempts to create arches and enclosures when building, using trial and improvement to select blocks.
B25 R6 Enjoys composing and decomposing shapes, learning which

shapes combine to make other shapes. DM Rec Compose and decompose shapes

so that children recognise a shape can have other shapes within it, just as numbers can.

B25 R6 Uses own ideas to make models of increasing complexity, selecting blocks needed, solving problems and visualising what they will build.

I can match shapes that are identical or have a different orientation or that are the same shape but a different size. I can find 2D and 3D shapes in my environment. B25 R1 Explores differently sized and shaped objects. B25 R4 Joins in and anticipates repeated sound and action patterns.

B25 R4 Is interested in what happens next using the pattern of everyday routines.
DM 3&4 Yrs Begin to describe a sequence of events, real or fictional, using words such as 'first', 'then...'

I can fix/fill in, duplicate/copy and extend a simple AB pattern.

B25 R5 Creates their own spatial patterns showing some organisation or regularity.
DM 3&4 Yrs Extend and create ABAB patterns – stick, leaf, stick, leaf.
DM 3&4 Yrs Notice and correct an error in a repeating pattern.

I can recognise, describe, and build repeating patterns, including AB but also patterns with core units such as <u>AAB</u>, ABC, and AABC

B25 R5 Explores and adds to simple linear patterns of two or three repeating items, e.g. stick, leaf (AB) or stick, leaf, stone (ABC).

B25 R5 Joins in with simple patterns in sounds, objects, games and stories dance and movement, predicting what comes next.

B25 R6 Spots patterns in the environment, beginning to identify the pattern "rule".

B25 R6 Chooses familiar objects to create and recreate repeating patterns beyond

comparisons of length, weight or capacity, paying attention to fairness and accuracy.

DM Rec Compare length, weight and capacity.

B25 R6 Becomes familiar with measuring tools in everyday experiences and play.

I can talk about routines. I can learn to use the language of time.

B25 R2 Gets to know and enjoys daily routine.

B25 R3 Beginning to understand that things might happen now or at another time, in routines.

B25 R4 Beginning to understand some talk about immediate past and future.

B25 R4 Beginning to anticipate times of the day such as mealtimes or home time.

B25 R5 Recalls a sequence of events in everyday life and stories.

B25 R6 Is increasingly able to order and sequence events using everyday language related to time.

B25 R6 Beginning to experience measuring time with timers and calendars.

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predicting and visualising how they	B25 R2 Responds to changes of shape.	AB patterns and begins to identify the	
will look (spatial reasoning).	B25 R4 Recognises that two objects have	unit of repeat.	
DM Rec Select, rotate and	the same shape. (Congruence)	DM Rec Continue, copy and create	
manipulate shapes in order to		repeating patterns.	
develop spatial reasoning skills.	I can recognise and name typical shapes		
	and later recognise less typical shapes. I	I can recognise a core unit of a pattern	
	can also distinguish between 2D and 3D	and then translate the pattern into new	
	shapes.	media e.g. from bricks to matchsticks.	
	I will begin to identify properties such as		
	sides.		
	I may say an angle is a pointy corner		
	before learning that it is called an		
	`angle' or a vertex or several vertices. I		
	can talk about shape faces and count		
	them accurately.		
	B25 R5 Responds to both informal		
	language and common shape names.		
	DM 3&4 Yrs 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'.		
	B25 R5 Shows awareness of shape		
	similarities and differences between		
	objects.		
	B25 R6 Uses informal language and		
	analogies, (e.g. heart-shaped and hand-		
	shaped leaves), as well as mathematical		
	terms to describe shapes.		
	I can apply the term 'angle' (point where		
	two rays or lines meet/join) to different		
	objects in my environment such as a		
	bent arm or a pair of scissors.		
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