

Mathematical Vocabulary Progression



This document sets out Key Stage (KS) 1 and KS2 maths vocabulary progression under the National Curriculum. Teachers will use the tables to check pupils' understanding of new vocabulary introduced in years 1 to 6.

The vocabulary will be used during every lesson to ensure all children understand the definition of vocabulary matching the knowledge and skill being taught.

Maths vocabulary for Early Years Foundation Stage

Number and place value

Zero, numbers, one, two, three...to twenty and beyond, teens numbers, eleven, twelve and beyond, none, how many...? Count, count (up) to, count on (from, to), count back (from, to) count in ones, twos, fives, tens, is the same as, more, less, odd, even, few, pattern, pair

Ones, tens, digit, the same numbers as, as many as, more, larger, bigger, greater, fewer, smaller, less, fewest, smallest, least, most, biggest, largest, greatest, one more, ten more, one less, ten less, compare, order, size, first, second, third...twentieth, last, last but one, before, after, next, between

Addition and subtraction

Add, more, and, make, sum, total, altogether, double, one more, two more...ten more, how many more to make...? How many more is...than...? How much more is...? Take away, how many are left/left over? How many have gone? One less, two less, ten less... how many fewer is...than...? How much less is...? Difference between

Multiplication and division Measure

Sharing, doubling, halving, number patterns

Measure, size, compare, guess, estimate, enough, not enough, too much, too little, too many, too few, nearly, close to, about the same as, just over, just under

Metre, length, height, width, depth, long, short, tall, high, low, wide, narrow, thick, thin, longer, shorter, taller, higher...and so on, longest, shortest, tallest, highest...and so on, far, near, close

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

Full empty, half full, holds, container

Geometry (position and direction)

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, along, through, to, from, towards, away from, movement, slide, roll, turn, stretch, bend, whole turn, half turn

Geometry (properties of shape)

Shape, pattern, flat, curved, straight, round, hollow, solid, sort, make, build, draw, size, bigger, larger, smaller, symmetrical, pattern, repeating pattern, match

Corner, side, rectangle (including squares) circle, triangle

Face, edge, vertex, vertices, cube, pyramid, sphere, cone

Fractions	Parts of a whole, half, quarter
Statistics	Count, sort, group, set, list
Money	Money, coin, penny, pence, pound, price, cost, buy, sell, spend, spent, pay
Time	Time, days of the week, day, week, birthday, holiday, 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, old, older, oldest, new, newer, newest, takes longer, takes less time, hour, o'clock, clock, watch, hands

Maths vocabulary for year 1

Number and place value	Ten more/less, digit, numeral, figure(s), compare, (in) order/a different order, size, value, between, halfway between, above, below, tens, ones
Addition and subtraction	Number bonds, number line, add, more, plus, make, sum, total, altogether, inverse, double, near double, equals, is the same as (including equals sign), difference between, subtract, take away, minus How many more to make ...?, How many more is ... than ...?, How much more is ...?, How many fewer is ... than ...?, How much less is ...?
Multiplication and division	Once, twice, three, five times, multiple of times Multiply, multiply by, repeated addition, array, row, column, double, halve, share, share equally, group in pairs, threes, etc., equal groups of, divide, divided by, left over
Measure	Time, days of the week, seasons, day, week, month, year, weekend, birthday, holiday, morning, afternoon, evening, night, midnight, bedtime, dinnertime, playtime, today, yesterday, tomorrow Before, after, next, last, now, soon, early, late, quick, quicker, quickest, quickly, fast, faster, fastest, slow, slower, slowest, slowly, old, older, oldest, new, newer, newest, Takes longer, takes less time, hour, o'clock, half past, clock, watch, hands, how long ago?, How long will it be to ...?, How long will it take to ...?, How often?, always, never, often, sometimes, usually, once, twice, first, second, third, etc., estimate, close to, about the same as, just over, just under, too many, too few, not enough, enough

Length, width, height, depth, long, longer, longest, short, shorter shortest, tall, taller, tallest, high, higher, highest, Low, wide, narrow, deep, shallow, thick, thin, far, near, close, metre, ruler, metre stick
How much?, How many?, money, coin, penny, pence, pound, price, cost, buy, sell, spend, spent, pay, change, dear(er), costs more, costs less, cheaper, costs the same as, total

Geometry (position and direction)

Before, after, beside, next to, opposite, apart, between, middle, edge, centre, corner, direction, journey, left, right, up, down, forwards, backwards, sideways, across, close, far, near, along, through, to, from, towards, away from, movement, slide, roll, turn, whole turn, half turn, stretch, bend

Geometry (properties of shape)

Corner (point, pointed), face, side, edge, make, build, draw

Fractions

Whole, equal parts, four equal parts, one half, two halves, a quarter, two quarters

Problem solving

Change, change over, split, separate, carry on, continue, repeat, what comes next?, find, choose, collect, use, make, build
Tell me, describe, pick out, talk about, explain, show me, read, write, record, trace, copy, complete, finish, end, fill in, shade, colour, tick, cross, draw, draw a line between, join (up), ring, arrow
Cost, count, work out, answer, check same number(s)/different number(s)/missing number(s)
Number facts, number line, number track, number square, number cards, abacus, counters, cubes, blocks, rods, die, dice, dominoes, pegs, peg board
Same way, different way, best way, another way, in order, in a different order, not all, every, each

Maths vocabulary for year 2

Number and place value

Numbers to one hundred, hundreds, partition, recombine, more/less

Measure

Quarter past/to, metres, kilometres, grams, kilograms, millimetres, litres, temperature, degrees

Geometry (position and direction)

Rotation, clockwise, anticlockwise, straight line, ninety degree turn, right angle

Geometry (properties of shape)	Size, bigger, larger, smaller, symmetrical, line of symmetry, fold, match, mirror line, reflection, pattern, repeating pattern
Fractions	Three quarters, one third, a third, equivalence, equivalent
Data/statistics	Count, tally, sort, vote, graph, block graph, pictogram, represent, group, set, list, table, label, title, most popular, most common, least popular, least common
Problem solving	Predict, describe the pattern, describe the rule, find, find all, find different, investigate

Maths vocabulary for year 3

Number and place value	Numbers to one thousand
Addition and subtraction	Column addition and subtraction
Multiplication and division	Product, multiples of four, eight, fifty and one hundred, scale up
Measure	Leap year, twelve-hour/twenty-four-hour clock, Roman numerals I to XIII
Geometry (position and direction)	Greater/less than ninety degrees, orientation (same orientation, different orientation)
Geometry (properties of shape)	Horizontal, perpendicular and parallel lines
Fractions	Numerator, denominator, unit fraction, non-unit fraction, compare and order, tenths
Data/statistics	Chart, bar chart, frequency table, Carroll diagram, Venn diagram, axis, axe

Maths vocabulary for year 4

Number and place value	Tenths, hundredths, decimal (places), round (to nearest), thousand more/less than, negative integers, count through zero, Roman numerals I to C
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Multiplication and division	Multiplication facts (up to 12x12), division facts, inverse, derive
Measure	Convert
Geometry (position and direction)	Co-ordinate, translate, quadrant, X-axis, Y-axis, perimeter, area
Geometry (properties of shape)	Quadrilaterals, triangles, right, acute and obtuse angles
Fractions and decimals	Equivalent decimals and fractions
Data/statistics	Continuous data, line graph

Maths vocabulary for year 5

Number and place value	Powers of 10
Addition and subtraction	Efficient written method
Multiplication and division	Factor pairs, composite numbers, prime number, prime factors, square number, cubed number, formal written method
Measure	Volume, imperial units, metric units
Geometry (position and direction)	Reflex angle, dimensions
Geometry (properties of shape)	Regular and irregular polygons
Fractions and decimals	Proper fractions, improper fractions, mixed numbers, percentage, half, quarter, fifth, two fifths, four fifths, ratio, proportion

Maths vocabulary for year 6

Number and place value	Numbers to ten million
Addition and subtraction	Order of operations
Multiplication and division	Common factors and common multiples
Geometry (position and direction)	Four quadrants (for co-ordinates)
Geometry (properties of shape)	Vertically opposite (angles), circumference, radius, diameter

Fractions, decimals and percentages

Degree of accuracy, simplify

Algebra

Linear number sequence, substitute, variables, symbol, known values

Data/statistics

Mean, pie chart, construct