

Infant Resource Pack for Maths Week

This pack contains six activities that are suitable for either Junior and Senior Infants. The numbers in the questions may have to be adapted to suit the class and the time of year that they are completed. These six activities are suitable for use in the classroom.

Prior to completing the activities teachers should pre-plan their questions ensuring that the questions they ask will promote mathematical thinking. Examples of questions are given with each activity but the list below also shows some question stems:

- ⇒ Explain how you....
- ⇒ What would happen if I changed this number....
- ⇒ Is there another way you could do it? Show me.
- ⇒ If you did it again what would you do differently/keep the same?
- ⇒ Draw it.

One of the main emphasis of these activities should be on **language** and allowing pupils to talk about what they are doing using the correct mathematical vocabulary. The teacher needs to lead by example by always modelling the correct language and reason their own mathematical thoughts out loud.

Many of these activities can be adapted for use outside, for example, the 'Picking Apples' activity can be completed without the template and using conkers, stones, flowers, etc.

There are some great outdoor activities that can be played using the ten frame. Why not draw several of them on the ground with chalk and assign a group of children to each one. Can they arrange them selves according to the instructions you give them? For example, the second and fifth box must remain empty or only the spaces on the top row can be filled.

Remember to register your school at www.mathsweek.ie and check for any events that may be happening in your area!