

Maths Week Scotland

Early Level

Welcome to Maths Week Scotland!

Maths Week Scotland is taking place 27 September – 3 October 2021 and you can take part through our online events and resources, containing a range of activities and ideas.

This pack contains ways to celebrate and enjoy Maths Week Scotland with your early years children, either at home or school. Online versions are available at www.mathsweek.scot/activities.

We would love to see what you get up to. Share your celebrations with us on [Twitter @MathsWeekScot](https://twitter.com/MathsWeekScot) and [#MathsWeekScot](https://twitter.com/MathsWeekScot).

ACTIVITY IDEAS Olympic Challenge

Train as if you are an Olympic athlete from Tokyo this Summer. Use a range of devices such as a clock, stop watch or app to complete different time challenges.

How many star jumps can you do in 30 seconds? How many times in 1 minute can you throw a ball up and catch it? How long can you run on the spot for?

Extension

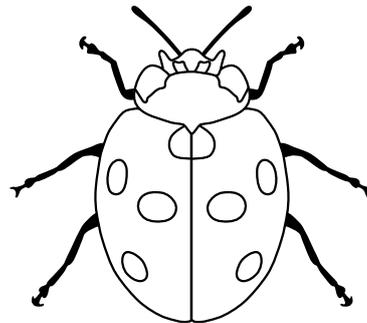
Estimate how many you can do before you start timing. Can you beat your prediction?

Symmetrical Bugs

Children can complete this in pairs, groups or individually.

You could watch this [video](#) about symmetry as an introduction.

Go on a symmetry hunt. Can they find objects with 1 line of symmetry? Record findings on a sheet or take a photo of it, or simply enjoy finding examples of symmetry. Children could then collect various sticks, stones, flowers or leaves to create their own symmetrical pictures.



Children might like to design and build their own symmetrical bugs using this image as a stimulus.

Quick Fire Challenge

Make up some addition and subtraction activities using different types of materials such as sticks, leaves or stones. How many can the children complete? They could be supported to create a maths question trail for others to complete.

MATHS OUTDOORS

Build a Birdhouse

Children could complete this activity in pairs, as a group or individually.

Start with a storytelling session reading a book about birds. You could use these [audio books](#) from the RSPB as a stimulus.

To make your birdhouse successfully you will need – a house, perch, a roof and somewhere to hang it. Consider using recycled materials where possible.

When designing your birdhouse think about:

- using different repeating patterns
- making sure the house is symmetrical
- using a ruler to measure the height to make sure the birds can fit into it

You could then monitor and keep a note of how many birds visit the bird



house or how many birds you see in your garden or local park.

Extension:

- What tools might we need to build our birdhouse and why?
- Which materials should we use and why?
- How can we make sure the birdhouse is weather proof?

Ten Pin Bowling



To make the pins, use empty containers with numerals written on them. Order them, counting forwards or backwards from a particular number.

Take it in turns to bowl at the pins. You could use ordinal language to decide who goes first and encourage children to keep track of scores.

MATHS AT WORK

Maths is important in a huge range of jobs and careers. Take on the role of shop keeper or coder to explore the maths they use in their jobs.

Shop Keeper

Time to play shop keeper!



Set up a pretend shop with the children.

- Think about the cost of items and discuss different ways customers might want to pay for their items
- Count the number of items for the shop eg. 3 pieces of fruit, 2 toy cars, 4 books
- Make some price labels for the items using 1p, 2p, 5p and 10p coins
- Use their knowledge of patterns, to create a sign or flag bunting for the shop using repeating patterns
- Make opening/closing times and show these on a clock

Extension

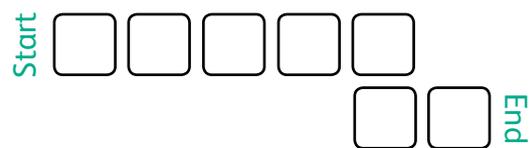
Act out purchasing multiple items and working out how much they cost together.

Computer Coder

It's time to have a go at computer programming!

Create your own gameboard by drawing a grid on the ground. The aim of the activity is to get from the start to finish. Think about and describe the direction you will need to move.

Can you use positional language to describe the route correctly? Are you going left? Right? Moving forwards or backwards? How many steps are you moving forward? Explain how you got from the start to the finish.



e.g. Move forward 5 places, turn right, move forward 1 place to reach the end.

Extension

Try playing with others at the same time. If you come across someone else in your way, are they in front or behind you? Use problem solving skills to see if you can get past them.

STEM Ambassadors

STEM Ambassadors are people working in STEM industries or with an interest in STEM available to talk to classes, run activities or help you plan sessions related to their work.

Browse the [STEM Ambassador website](#) to bring maths at work to life.

MATHS WEEK SCOTLAND COMPETITIONS

Maths Inside

Get your cameras ready to get out and about and find the *Maths Inside* your daily life.

The Maths Inside photography competition has categories from early years up to adult so teachers and parents can enter too!

Enter at
<https://mathsinside.com/#about>.

FIND MORE

Head to the Maths Week Scotland website www.mathsweek.scot for more activities for Early Years and free online CLPL opportunities.

You can find more suggested activities at:

- [Rainbow Quiz – Listening audio Quiz](#)
- [BBC Bitesize Early Years](#)
- [My Word of Work website](#)
- [Creative STAR](#)
- [Learning through landscapes](#)
- [RSPB – Fun and learning for kids](#)
- [Countdown to COP26 with Education Scotland](#)

Follow us on social media for more activities and ideas [@MathsWeekScot](#) and [@edscot_maths](#).

