

Dear families,

This term in maths we are exploring numbers to 10, and especially how numbers can be split and put back together again. The children are learning that a number like 8 is not just a word or a symbol, but can be made of smaller parts, such as 2 and 6, or 5 and 3.

We are using ten frames (simple grids with two rows of five) to help children see numbers clearly and spot how many more are needed to reach 10. We are also exploring every way to make 10, and looking at number bonds, including what happens when we start with 0 or take some away.

All of this is taught through hands-on play rather than sitting and writing, so your child might be sorting conkers, sharing out snacks, or building towers of cubes while they practise these ideas.

Ideas to try at home

- At snack time, share out 10 grapes or crackers between two plates and ask, 'If I put 4 on this plate, how many go on the other?'
- Use an egg box or muffin tray with 6 spaces and some small toys to explore how many are filled and how many empty spaces are left.
- While getting dressed, count up to 10 buttons or socks together and talk about pairs, such as 2 and 2 making 4.
- Play a simple hiding game with up to 10 buttons: show your child the total, hide some under a cup, and ask how many are hidden.
- On a walk, count steps, lampposts or leaves up to 10 and talk about how many more you need to reach 10 from where you are.

With thanks for your support at home, The Reception Team