

Week 1, Activity 1 - Counting stick

Key skills

- To be able to count forwards and backwards from zero or any given number.
- To count in multiples.

Have ready

- A stick, broom handle or pole at least a metre long, OR...
- Draw a chalk on paving slabs, or even use the edge of a table and tape.

Activity

- Using the resources, make a counting stick (no longer than a metre) and with your child work out how to divide it into 10 equal parts.
- Mark each division with a pen, tape or tie string. This is now ready for all sorts of counting.
- Each mark/division can represent whatever you want it to. Point to the division as you count.



For example, you could count in ...

Ones - 1, 2, 3, 4, and so on to 10

Ones - but start at 50 (50, 51, 52, 53 ... and so on)

Twos - starting at zero or a different number

Week 1, Activity 2 - Crossing sticks

Key skills

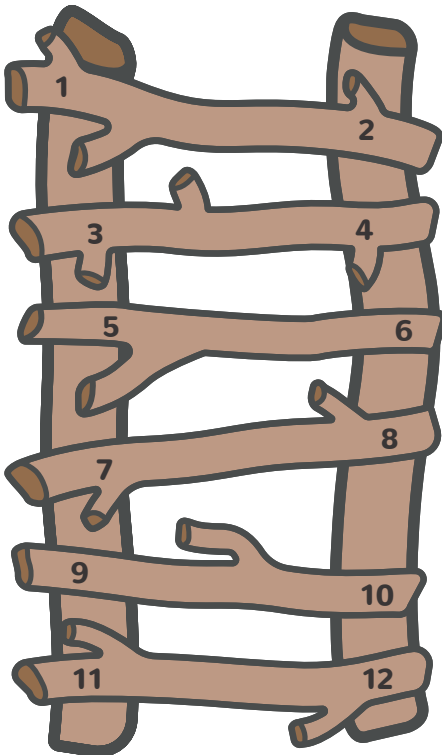
- To problem solve.

Have ready

- Sticks or alternatives.

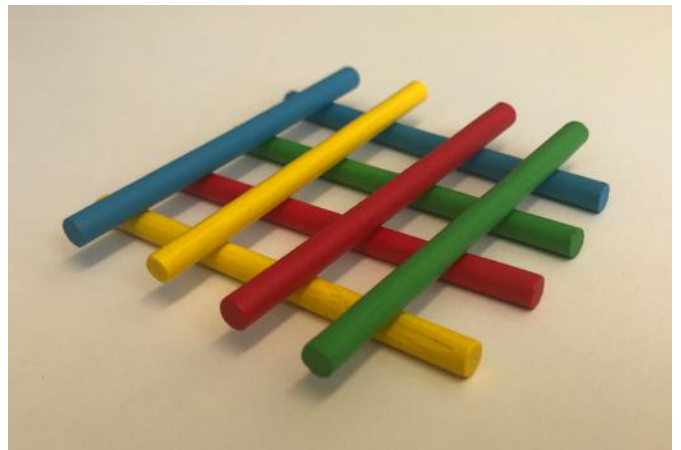
Activity

- Take 8 sticks. You can only place them horizontally or vertically to each other.
- Unless all sticks are parallel to each other then sticks placed horizontally will always cross sticks placed vertically.
- For example, with 8 sticks placed like this there are 12 places where the sticks cross.



- If I changed the direction of some of the sticks would the number of crossings change?

- Have a go with six sticks.
- Explore different variations.



- How many different number of crossings are there?
- If all lines are parallel, how many crossing points will there be?
- What is the next largest number of crossings after zero? Can you explain your answer?
- What is the largest number of crossings? Can you explain your answer?
- Explore for different numbers of sticks.