



MATHEMATICAL VOCABULARY

Reception (Early Years Foundation Stage)

In Reception, the focus is on everyday vocabulary to explore **number composition**, **subitising**, and **early shapes**.

- **Number & Place Value:** Subitise (*recognise a quantity without counting*), count, altogether, more, fewer, less, same, matching, estimate, pattern, repeat, order, zero, teen numbers.
- **Addition & Subtraction:** Add, take away, more, parts, whole, total, group, share, equal.
- **Geometry & Measure:** Shape, flat (2D), solid (3D), curved, straight, heavy, light, full, empty, before, after, next, sequence.

Year 1

Year 1 introduces precise mathematical terms alongside formal symbols (+, -, =).

- **Number & Place Value:** Digits, tens, ones, place value, partition, greater than (>), less than (<), equal to (=), ordinal numbers (*first, second, third*), halfway, count on, count back.
- **Addition & Subtraction:** Sum, total, difference, subtract, minus, inverse, number bonds, number line, part-whole model.
- **Multiplication & Division:** Group, array, double, half, share equally.
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- **Fractions:** Whole, part, equal parts, half ($\frac{1}{2}$), quarter ($\frac{1}{4}$).



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- **Geometry & Measure:** Cube, cuboid, pyramid, sphere, cone, cylinder, rectangle, triangle, square, circle, length, height, mass, capacity, analogue clock, O'clock, half past

Year 2

In Year 2, vocabulary builds heavily on structure, efficiency, and early multiplication tables.

- **Number & Place Value:** Two-digit number, estimate, position, sequence, count in steps (*twos, fives, tens*), odd, even.
- **Addition & Subtraction:** Commutative (*numbers can be added in any order*), mental calculation, column method, regrouping.
- **Multiplication & Division:** Multiply, times, product, row, column, divide, shared between, groups of, multiplication facts.
- **Fractions:** Equivalent, numerator (*top number*), denominator (*bottom number*), three-quarters, third
- **Geometry & Measure:** Vertices/vertex (*corners*), edges, faces, symmetry, clockwise, anti-clockwise, turn, right angle, metre (m), centimetre (cm), kilogram (kg), gram (g), litre (l), millilitre (ml), past, to, duration.

EXAMPLES of how this vocabulary is used in STEM sentences

Reception: *"First there were 3 ducks, then 1 more arrived, now there are 4 altogether."*

Year 1: *"I know 7 is **greater than** 5 because it sits further along the number line."*

Year 2: *"The **whole** is 10. One **part** is 3, the other **part** is 7."*