

Activities and Ideas for Numicon

Number and pattern exploring	Counting	Number recognition	Place value/understanding number
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Let children explore the shape of Numicon in sand, soil, water. • Make patterns and print with Numicon. • Use overlays. Children will add number shapes on top to match the picture. • Fill baseboard with Numicon shapes. What is the smallest amount of Numicon shapes you could use to fill it? • Create own pictures using Numicon shapes and pegs (i.e. make a man, a dog, a rocket etc). • Push Numicon shapes into playdough to make numbers to match numerals. • Make or continue a repeating pattern using Numicon shapes. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pegs- children to count out number given and use the shapes on top to see the whole number. • Put a Numicon number shape in a feely bag or in sand and encourage children to feel and explore it. What number is it? Can they count how many holes it has got? • Can children describe a hidden Numicon shape to others to guess? (i.e. sticky out bit on the top, 3 holes down one side and 4 holes down the other). • Count out little pom poms into Numicon shapes (perhaps picking them up with tweezers to also improve fine motor skills). • Numicon counting wheel- counting forwards and backwards around the wheel from a given number. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use a spinner and children will get appropriate Numicon shape to match the numeral. • Match the Numicon to the number shapes on a number line. • Progress to putting the number shapes in order and adding numerals underneath (to make a Numicon number line). • Take a Numicon shape away from a completed Numicon number line. Can they work out which number has been taken? • Hold up the Numicon shapes (i.e. 2 tens and a 4)- can the ch tell you what the number is? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Give children a starting number (i.e. 7- how many different shapes can they put on top to make 7? Using only 2 shapes? Using 3 shapes etc? • Represent and match different numbers using Numicon (i.e. 25= 2 tens and a 5). Very useful for understanding teen numbers. Does the “1” represent a 1 or does it represent 1 ten?”. • Numicon counting wheel- especially good for understanding teen numbers.

Addition and subtraction	Multiplication	Division	Other (i.e. odd and even)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Add Numicon shapes together- you can see the answer! • Subtract by covering up the part that you have taken away. • Build towers of 10 using pegs and different Numicon shapes to show number bonds to 10. • Find the difference- put a number shape on top of a bigger number (i.e. 3 on top of 7. How many more would you need for the numbers to be the same? Ch to identify that they need 4 more i.e. the difference between 3 and 7 is 4. • Number bonds to 10-visually see all the patterns of number bonds. Put a number on top of a 10 and ch can visually see how many more they need to make 10. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ch will count out 2's for example and each time they add 2 will see the new shape created in the 2's pattern. Add number shapes on top to check numbers (i.e. 4 shape on top of 2 lots of 2. • They can match Numicon (i.e. 3 x 2) to repeated addition or multiplication sums. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use an imaginary line to split Numicon in half allowing children to visually see the two halves of the number. Discuss the different ways the shape can be split (i.e. horizontal or vertical) • Give children a number- i.e. 25- How many 5's fit in 25? How many 3's fit in 12? Ch count out Numicon shapes and physically fit them within the bigger number. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Being able to instantly recognise odd and even numbers by the part that "sticks out". You can draw a line down the middle of the Numicon and show that they can be shared fairly for even or unfairly for odds. • Working out one more or one less than a number by adding one more or hiding one number- the number shape changes to become the new number.