

## Mental strategies – progression document

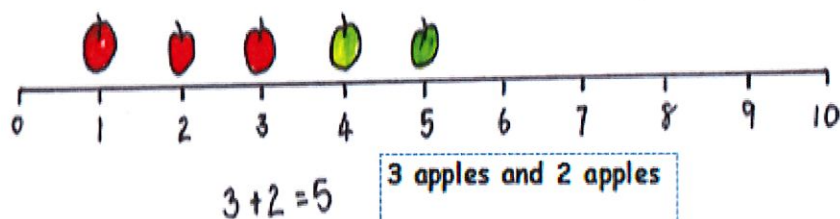
This document should be read alongside the Wootton Calculation Progression document.

Whilst this document focuses on the number line as the main representation, it is still *crucial* that pupils are introduced to a range of representations of core concepts alongside this.

## Addition

YR:

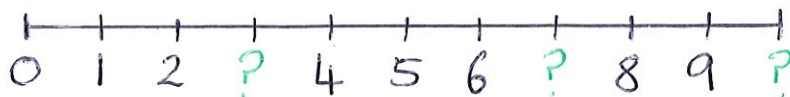
Exposure to the number line as a representation of numbers to 10 (and 20), alongside practical resources and other pictorial illustrations.



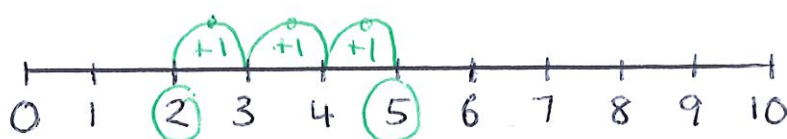
Build life-size number lines and practise finding numbers and jumping forwards and counting along the line.



Find a given number on a number line. Fill in missing numbers on a number line.



Count forwards on a number line. - vary language used.



Start at 2.  
Count on 3 (jumps).  
Where do you land?

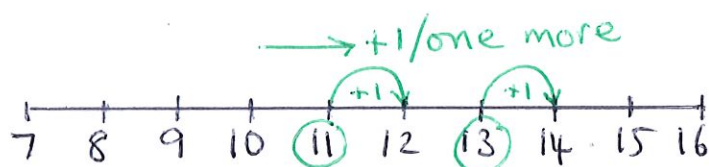
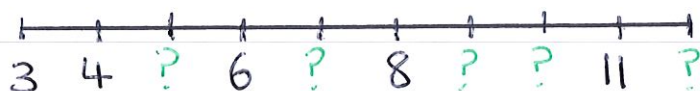
Embed number bonds within 5 using a range of representations including the number line.

Write simple addition sentences:  $3 + 4 = \square$

Y1:

Extend place value to 20 (and beyond).

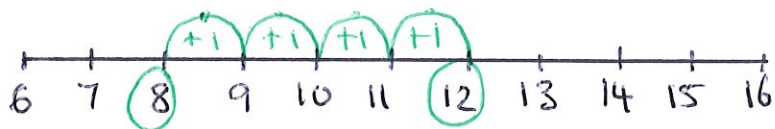
Locate a given number on a number line. Fill in missing numbers on a number line. Find one more using a number line.



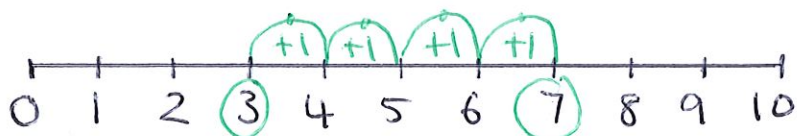
• One more than 11?

•  $13 + 1 = ?$

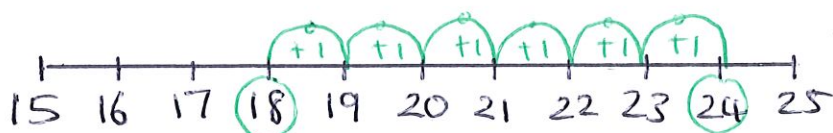
Count forwards in ones on a number line and record this using "jumps". Begin to link this to simple addition calculations within 10, then crossing the tens boundary, then across 20.



• Start on 8,  
Count on 4 jumps.  
Where do you land?

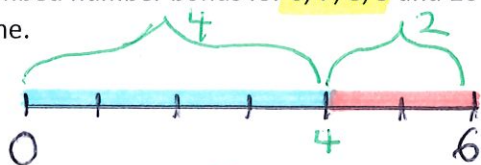


•  $3 + 4 = ?$

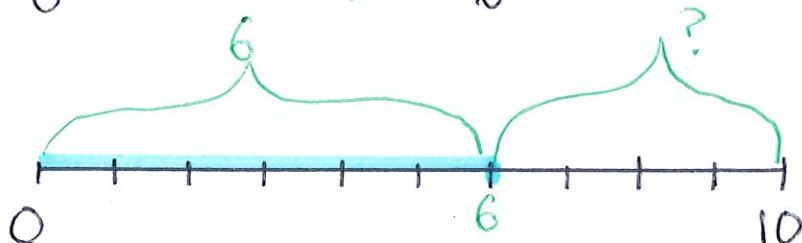


•  $18 + 6 = ?$

Embed number bonds for 6, 7, 8, 9 and 10 using a range of representations including the number line.



$$4 + 2 = 6$$



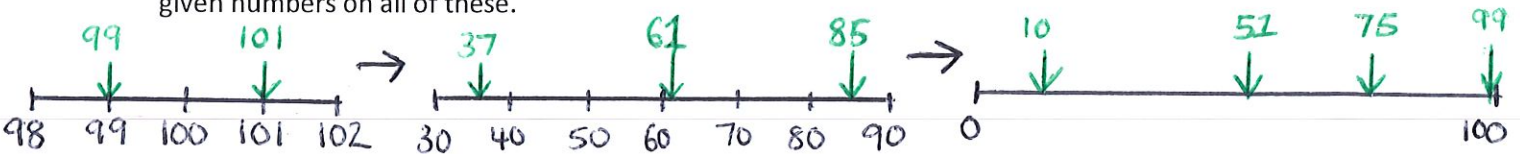
$$6 + \square = 10?$$

Potential progression for pupils working at a Greater Depth from a structured number line, to a number line labelled in multiples of ten, to a blank number line.



Y2:

Extend place value to 100. Count in ones and tens across the 100 boundary. Progression from using a structured number line, to a number line labelled in multiples of ten, to a blank number line. Locate given numbers on all of these.



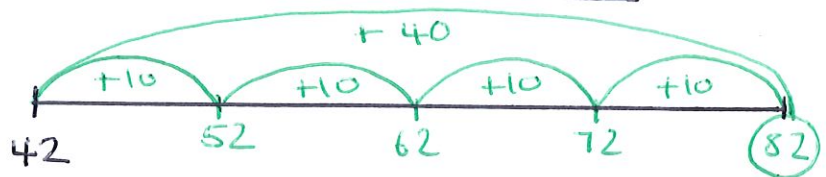
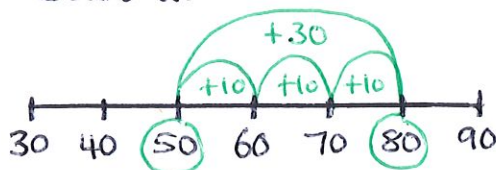
Count in 10s using a number line, from 0 and other multiples of 10, and then from any number.

Apply this to adding tens. Some pupils may be able to count in multiples of ten.

start at 50. Count on 3 tens.

(30)

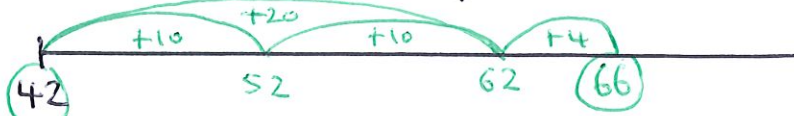
$$42 + 40 = \square$$



Add tens and ones (not crossing tens boundaries) by partitioning the second number. Apply number bonds to add ones – move away from counting in ones.

$$42 + 24 = \square$$

• recognise that  $2+4$ , or  $4+2=6$  using number bonds

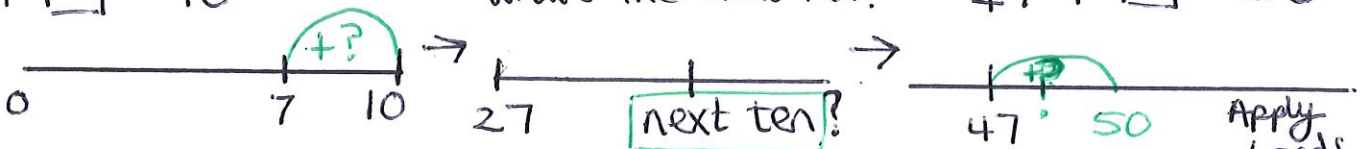


Use knowledge of number bonds to bridge to ten, and multiples of 10 – "what's the next ten?"

$$7 + \square = 10$$

"what's the next ten?"

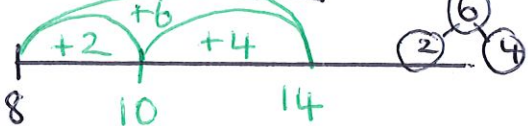
$$47 + \square = 50$$



Apply number bonds within 10 to bridge across ten, partitioning e.g. 8 into 3 and 5, 4 and 4, 2 and 6, or 7 and 1 as necessary. It is crucial that number bonds to 6, 7, 8, and 9 are secure. Use the same skills to bridge across multiples of 10.

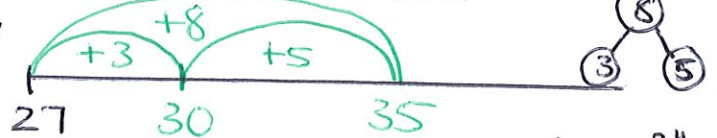
$$8 + 6 = \square$$

• Partition



$$27 + 8 = \square$$

• Partition

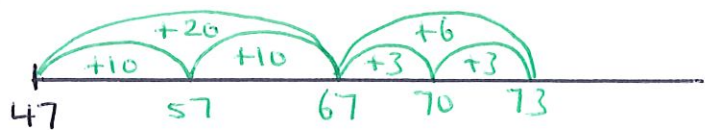
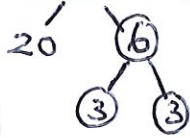


"what's the next ten?"

Apply learned skills concurrently to add any 2-digit numbers.

$$47 + 26 = \square$$

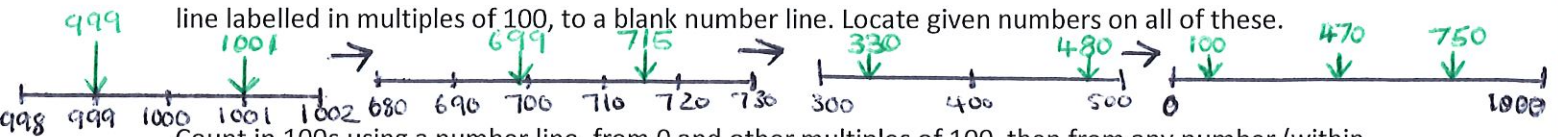
- Partition
- Add tens ( $\times 10$ )
- Add ones (bridging)



Embed number bonds to 20, and apply beyond. Embed number bonds to 100 using multiples of ten. Some children may be able to apply these in tandem to work out number bonds to 100 using any 2-digit number. Some pupils may be able to apply their skills to cross the 100 boundary.

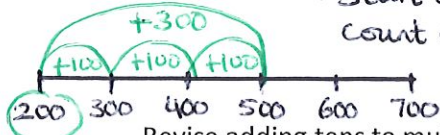


**Y3:** Extend place value to 1000. Count in ones, tens and 100s across all 100s boundaries, and across the 1000 boundary. Progression from using a number line labelled in multiples of 10, to a number line labelled in multiples of 100, to a blank number line. Locate given numbers on all of these.



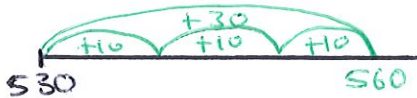
Count in 100s using a number line, from 0 and other multiples of 100, then from any number (within 1000). Apply this to adding hundreds. *Some pupils may be able to count in multiples of 100.*

• Start at 200.  
Count on 3 hundreds (300)

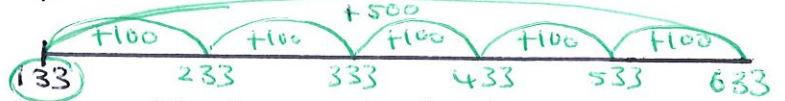


Revise adding tens to multiples of 10 using a number line, and then to any number, though now working beyond 100.

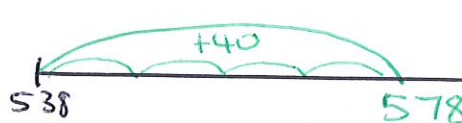
$$530 + 3 \text{ tens}(30) = \square$$



$$133 + 500 = \square$$



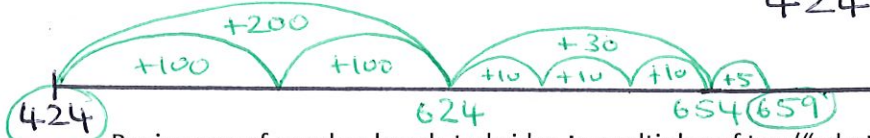
$$538 + 40 = \square$$



• Apply  
 $3 + 4 = 7$   
 $30 + 40 = 70$

Add hundreds, tens and ones (not crossing tens and hundreds boundaries) by partitioning the second number. Apply number bonds to add ones – move away from counting in ones.

$$424 + 235 = \square$$

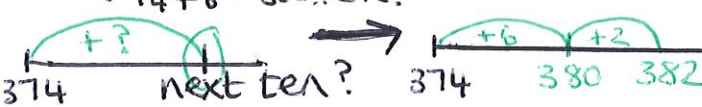


Look at which digit changes.  
• Apply ↑ " "

Revise use of number bonds to bridge to multiples of ten ("what's the next ten?"), and through multiples of 10 (beyond 100). Practise adding tens and ones to 3-digit numbers using bridging.

• Apply  $4 + 6 = 10$   
 $74 + 6 = 80$ ... etc.

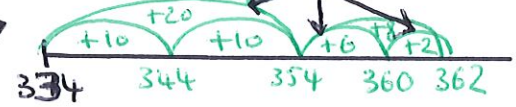
$$374 + 8 = \square$$



• Partition

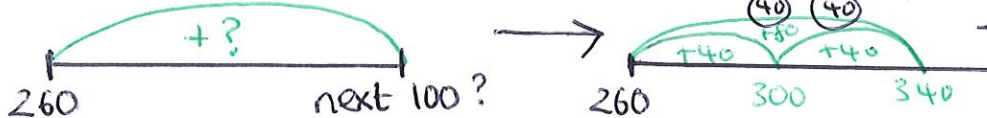


$$334 + 28 = \square$$

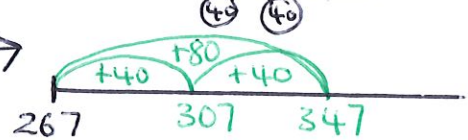


Bridge to 100 using multiples of ten; bridge through 100 using multiples of ten; and then any number.

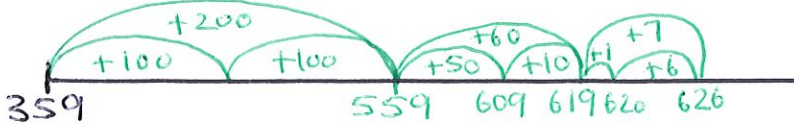
$$260 + 80 = \square$$



$$267 + 80 = \square$$

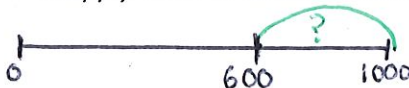


Apply learned skills concurrently to add 3-digit numbers by partitioning either the second number, or the smallest number, and bridging across hundreds and tens as necessary.



$$267 + 359 = \square$$

Embed number bonds to 1000 using multiples of 100 and multiples of ten. Some pupils may be able to apply these in tandem to work out number bonds to 1000 using any 3-digit numbers.



• Apply  $6 + 4 = 10$ ,  $60 + 40 = 100$ ,  $600 + 400 = 1000$

Additional skills: Estimate by rounding and adjusting.

$$358 + 199 = \square$$

Round 199 to 200... minus 1...

Apply mental bridging to the expanded column method using 3-digit numbers.

$$\begin{array}{r} 300 + 50 + 8 \\ + 100 + 90 + 7 \\ \hline 400 + 140 + 15 \end{array}$$

$8 + 7 \rightarrow$  mental bridging

$8 + 7 = 15$

$50 + 90 \rightarrow$  mental bridging = 555

$10 + 40 = 50$

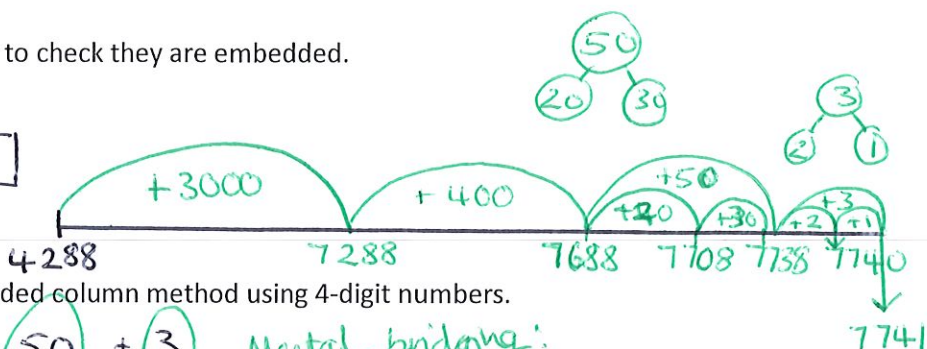
Y4:

Revise skills from prior year groups to check they are embedded.

Apply the same skills beyond 1000.

$$4288 + 3453 = \square$$

3000 400 50 3



Apply mental bridging to the expanded column method using 4-digit numbers.

$$\begin{array}{r} 3000 + 400 + 50 + 3 \\ + 4000 + 200 + 80 + 8 \\ \hline 7000 \quad 600 \quad 130 \quad 11 \end{array}$$

Mental bridging:

$$8 + 3 = 11$$

$$80 + 50 = 130$$

Progress to the formal column method (first without, and then with carrying). Mental bridging should now be fluent.

$$\begin{array}{r} 342 \\ + 123 \\ \hline 465 \end{array}$$

Ensure PV understanding is secure - what is the value of the circled digit? 60

$$\begin{array}{r} 359 \\ + 374 \\ \hline 733 \end{array}$$

Carry digits under the line. Cross out once added on.

Y5 and Y6:

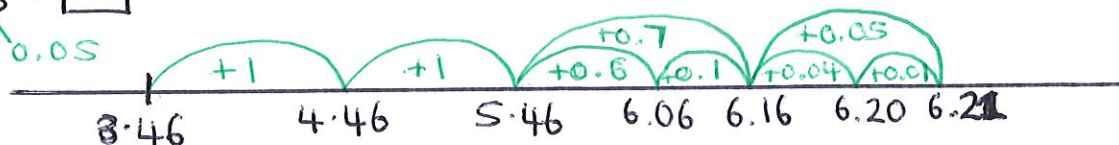
Revise skills from prior year groups to check they are embedded.

Apply the same skills to increasingly large numbers.

Apply the same skills to work with decimals, demonstrating understanding of the relative "sizes" or values of decimals.

$$3.46 + 2.75 = \square$$

2 0.7 0.05



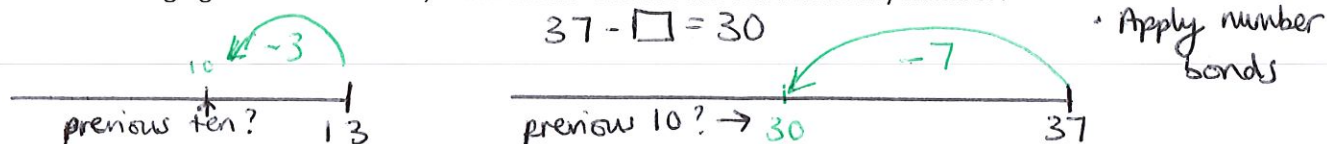
Select appropriate and efficient methods to solve problems.



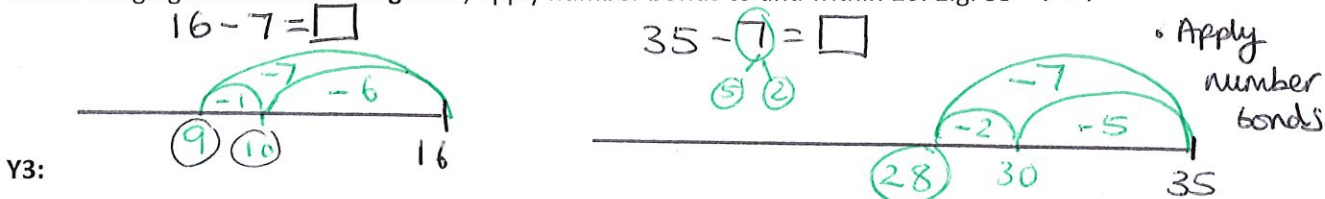
# Subtraction

**All year groups:** Repeat the processes described for Addition, but this time counting backwards for Subtraction. Embed subtraction facts, recognising fact families.

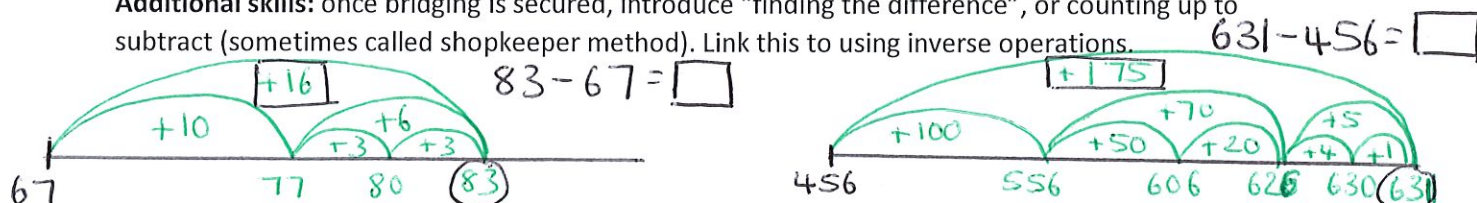
**Y2:** When bridging backwards to ten, think about "what is the ten before my number?"



When bridging backwards through ten, apply number bonds to and within 10. E.g. 35 - 7 = ?



**Additional skills:** once bridging is secured, introduce "finding the difference", or counting up to subtract (sometimes called shopkeeper method). Link this to using inverse operations.



Apply mental bridging to the expanded column method using 3-digit numbers.

Y4:

$$\begin{array}{r} 400 + 60 + 3 \\ - 100 + 20 + 2 \\ \hline 300 + 40 + 1 = 341 \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 400 \quad 50 \quad 12 \\ - 100 \quad 20 \quad 8 \\ \hline 300 \quad 30 \quad 4 = 334 \end{array}$$

**Additional skills:** Apply mental bridging to the expanded column method using 4-digit numbers, including exchanging.

$$\begin{array}{r} 4000 \quad 1500 \quad 120 \quad 18 \\ - 2000 \quad 800 \quad 50 \quad 9 \\ \hline 2000 \quad 700 \quad 70 \quad 9 = 2779 \end{array}$$

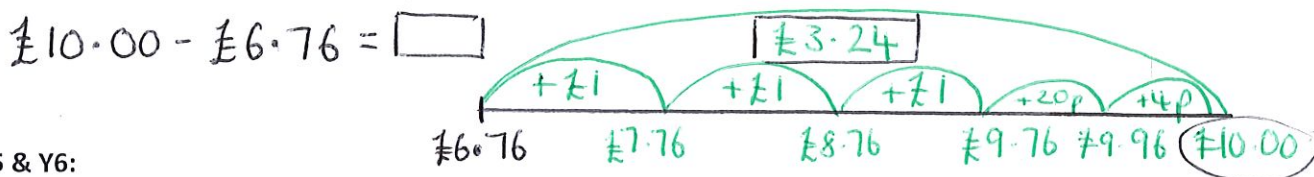
Progress to the formal column method (first without, and then with exchanging). Mental bridging should now be fluent.

$$\begin{array}{r} 9864 \\ - 1243 \\ \hline 8621 \end{array}$$

• ensure PV understanding is secure - what is the value of the circled digit?

$$\begin{array}{r} 45138 \\ - 2852 \\ \hline 2786 \end{array}$$

Secure "finding the difference" as an efficient mental subtraction method.



Y5 & Y6:

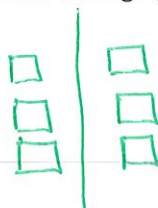
Repeat the processes described for addition with subtraction, including application to decimals.

Secure "finding the difference" as an efficient mental subtraction method.

# Multiplication

YR: Double to solve problems through practical and visual doubling – e.g. resources, ladybird spots

2 children have  
3 bricks each.



Double  
 $3 =$



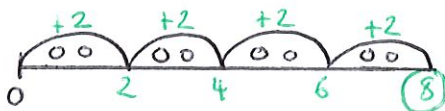
Jack's  
beanstalk  
doubles in  
height. It  
started at 5 leaves tall.  
How many now?



Y1: Jump in 2s, 5s and 10s on a structured number line, alongside arrays and drawn groups.

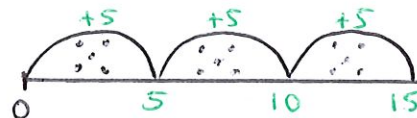
$$4 \times 2 = \square$$

(lots of)   
(groups of)

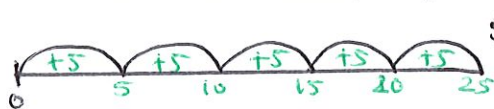


$$3 \times 5 =$$

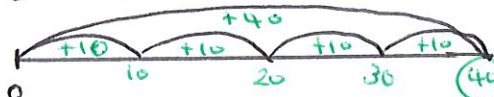
5  
10  
15



Y2: Jump in 2s, 5s and 10s confidently. Some pupils may be able to count in multiples of 10. Apply skills to other amounts, alongside arrays. Once recording is secure, move on to listing tables.



$$5 \times 5 = \square$$



$$4 \times 10 = \square$$

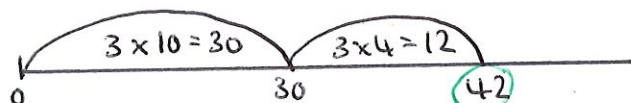
7  
14  
21

7  
14  
21  
28  
35

Y3: Partition 2-digit numbers and jump in multiples of 10, applying times table knowledge.

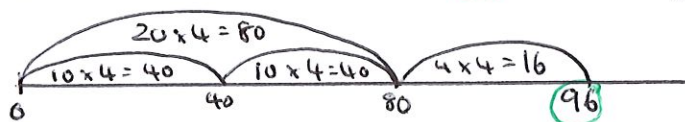
$$14 \times 3 = \square$$

$(10 \times 3) + (4 \times 3)$



$$24 \times 4 = \square$$

$(20 \times 4) + (4 \times 4)$



• Encourage pupils  
to apply to  
multiples of 10

Y4: Secure the grid method, and then column method for 2- and 3-digit numbers by 1-digit numbers.

x	200	40	3
3	600	120	9
			= 729

$$\begin{array}{r} 24 \\ \times 3 \\ \hline 12 \quad (3 \times 4) \\ 60 \quad (3 \times 20) \\ \hline 72 \quad (+) \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 24 \\ \times 3 \\ \hline 72 \end{array}$$

• Record  
carried  
digits  
under the  
line. Cross  
out once  
added.

Y5: Secure the formal column method for a 4-digit number multiplied by a 1-digit number.

$$\begin{array}{r} 2436 \\ \times 6 \\ \hline 14616 \end{array}$$

• Record carried digits under the line.  
Cross out once added.

Y6: Secure the column method, for up to 4-digit numbers multiplied by 2-digit numbers plus.

$$\begin{array}{r} 243 \\ \times 22 \\ \hline 486 \\ + 4860 \\ \hline 5346 \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 5976 \\ \times 48 \\ \hline 47808 \\ + 239040 \\ \hline 286848 \end{array}$$

• Record carried digits  
neatly under the line.  
Cross out once added.



# Division

YR: Halve to solve problems, by sharing and grouping, using practical resources and visuals.

Cut the pizza in half to share with a friend.

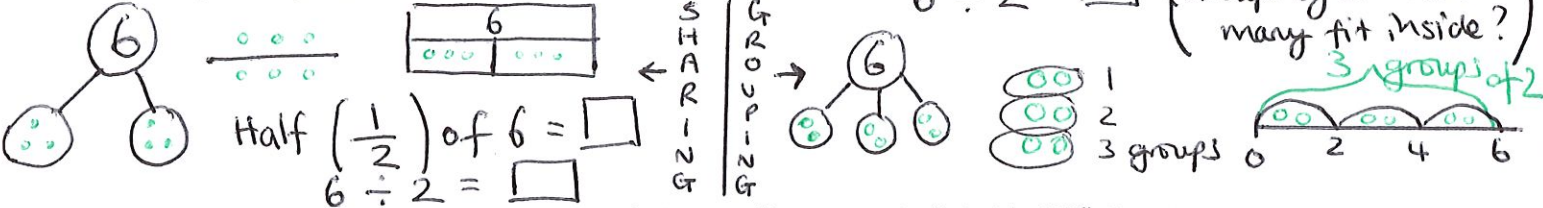


3 friends share 6 apples equally.

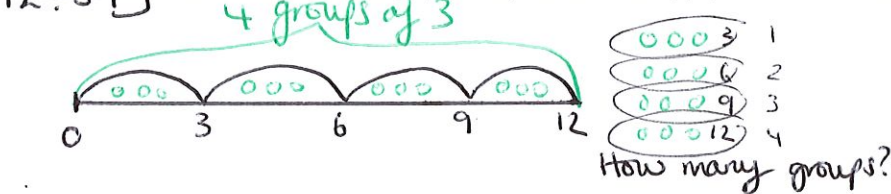


Half of 4 =

Y1: Explore sharing and grouping using sharing circles and arrays. Some children may be able to begin to represent this on the number line alongside arrays.



Y2: Grouping becomes the focus, considering e.g. "how many 3s fit inside 12?". Count up on a number line. Some pupils may be able to apply their times table knowledge.



Understand use of arrays for both multiplication and for division

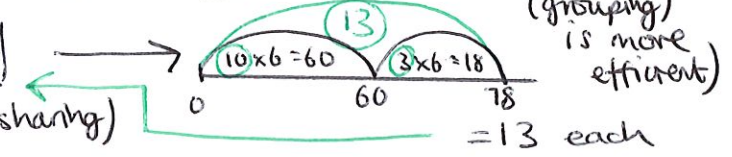
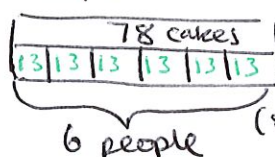
KS2: Apply skills to a variety of problems; understand that the representation/interpretation of a problem might be sharing, but you can use a grouping strategy to work it out (commutativity).

E.g. Mrs Bun shares 78 cakes between 6 customers. How many cakes will they get each?

Representation

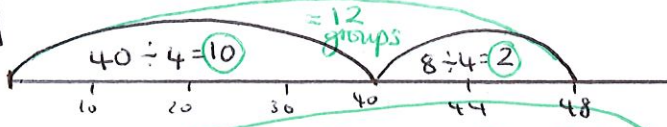
78 ÷ 6 =

Calculation



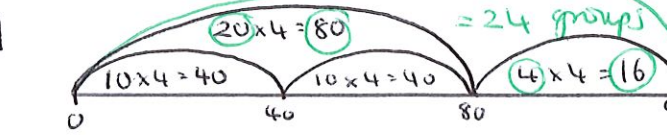
Y3: First partition 2-digit numbers into tens and ones to count up in groups, applying known facts. Progress to partitioning in more complex ways, applying known facts.

48 ÷ 4 =



or record as 4 × 10 = 40 / 4 × 2 = 8

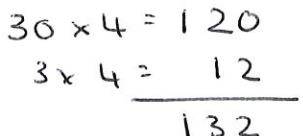
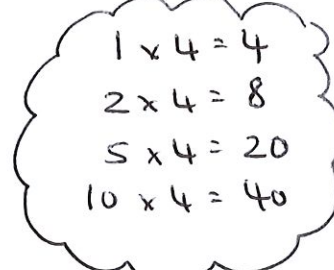
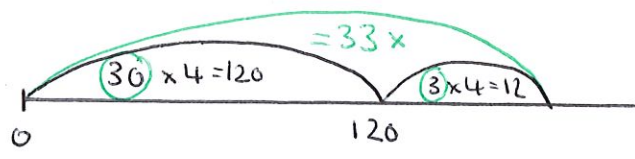
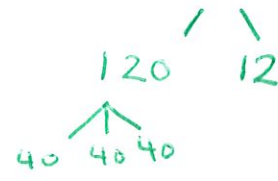
96 ÷ 4 =



or record as 40 ÷ 4 = 10 / 40 ÷ 4 = 10 / 16 ÷ 4 = 4

Y4: Continue to partition numbers in more complex ways to aid mental division, using known facts. List known facts to help to chunk division calculations (1x, 2x, 5x, 10x).

132 ÷ 4 =

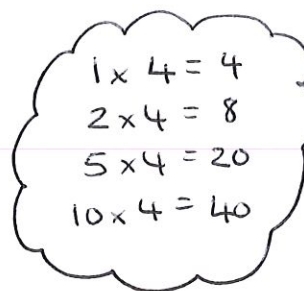


check using the inverse and known facts



Y5: Secure the short division method.

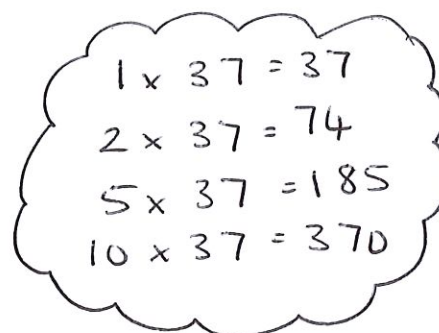
$$\begin{array}{r} 056 \\ 4 \overline{) 224} \end{array}$$



$1 \times 4 = 4$   
 $2 \times 4 = 8$   
 $5 \times 4 = 20$   
 $10 \times 4 = 40$

Y6: Secure long division when dividing by a 2-digit number. List known / worked facts to help chunk division calculations (1x, 2x, 5x, 10x).

$$\begin{array}{r} 024 \\ 37 \overline{) 888} \\ \underline{74} \downarrow \\ 148 \end{array}$$



$1 \times 37 = 37$   
 $2 \times 37 = 74$   
 $5 \times 37 = 185$   
 $10 \times 37 = 370$

$$\begin{array}{r} 0046 \\ 37 \overline{) 1702} \\ \underline{148} \downarrow \\ 0222 \end{array}$$