

# **Mathematical Vocabulary Children in Year 3** **should know, understand, use and be able to spell.**

*(Words new to Year 3 are emphasised.)*

## **Counting, properties of numbers and number sequences**

number

zero, one, two, three... to twenty and beyond

zero, ten, twenty... one hundred

zero, one hundred, two hundred... one thousand

none

how many...?

count, count (up) to

count on (from, to)

count back (from, to)

count in ones, twos, threes, fours, fives and so on

count in tens, *hundreds*

more, less, many, few

tally

odd, even

every other

how many times?

multiple of

sequence

continue

predict

pattern, pair, rule

*relationship*

## **Place value and ordering**

units, ones

tens, hundreds

digit

one-, two- or three-digit number

'teens' number

place, place value

stands for, represents

exchange

the same number as, as many as

equal to

*Of two objects/amounts:*

greater, more, larger, bigger

less, fewer, smaller

*Of three or more objects/amounts:*

greatest, most, biggest, largest

least, fewest, smallest

one more, ten more, *one hundred more*

one less, ten less, *one hundred less*  
compare  
order  
size  
first, second, third... tenth... twentieth  
twenty-first, twenty-second...  
last, last but one  
before, after  
next  
between, half-way between  
above, below

## **Estimating**

guess how many, estimate  
nearly, roughly, close to  
*approximate, approximately*  
about the same as  
just over, just under  
exact, exactly  
too many, too few, enough, not enough  
round (*up or down*)  
nearest (round to the nearest ten)

## **Fractions**

part, equal parts  
fraction  
one whole  
one half, two halves  
one quarter, two... three... four quarters  
*one third, two thirds*  
*one tenth*

## **Calculations**

### **Addition and subtraction**

+, add, addition, more, plus  
make, sum, total  
altogether  
score  
double, near double  
one more, two more... ten more... one hundred  
more  
how many more to make ...?  
how many more is... than ...?  
how much more is...?

-, subtract, take (away), minus  
leave, how many are left/left over?  
one less, two less... ten less... one hundred less  
how many fewer is... than ...?  
how much less is...?  
difference between  
half, halve  
=, equals, sign, is the same as  
tens boundary, *hundreds boundary*

## **Multiplication and division**

lots of, groups of  
x, times, *multiplication*, multiply, multiplied by  
multiple of, *product*  
once, twice, three times,  
four times, five times... ten times...  
times as (big, long, wide and so on)  
repeated addition  
array  
row, column  
double, halve  
share, share equally  
one each, two each, three each...  
group in pairs, threes... tens  
equal groups of  
÷, divide, *division*, divided by, divided into  
left, left over, *remainder*

## **Solving problems**

## **Making decisions and reasoning**

pattern, puzzle  
calculate, calculation  
mental calculation  
*method*  
jotting  
answer  
right, correct, wrong  
what could we try next?  
how did you work it out?  
number sentence  
sign, operation, symbol, *equation*

## Money

money

coin, *note*

penny, pence, pound, (£)

price, cost

buy, bought, sell, sold

spend, spent

pay

change

dear, costs more, *more/most expensive*

cheap, costs less, cheaper, *less/least expensive*

how much...? how many...?

total, *amount*

*value, worth*

## Handling data

count, tally, sort, vote

graph, block graph, pictogram

represent

group, set

list, *chart, bar chart*

table, *frequency table*

*Carroll diagram, Venn diagram*

label, title, *axis, axes*

*diagram*

most popular, most common

least popular, least common

## Measures, shape and space

### Measures (general)

measure

size

compare

measuring scale, *division*

guess, estimate

enough, not enough

too much, too little

too many, too few

nearly, roughly, about, close to,

about the same as, *approximately*

just over, just under

## **Length**

length, width, height, depth  
long, short, tall, high, low  
wide, narrow, deep, shallow, thick, thin  
longer, shorter, taller, higher... and so on  
longest, shortest, tallest, highest... and so on  
far, further, furthest, near, close  
*distance apart/between... to... from*  
*kilometre (km), metre (m), centimetre (cm)*  
*mile*  
ruler, metre stick, tape measure

## **Mass**

weigh, weighs, balances  
heavy/light, heavier/lighter, heaviest/lightest  
kilogram (*kg*), half-kilogram, gram (*g*)  
balance, scales, weight

## **Capacity**

capacity  
full, half full  
empty  
holds, contains  
litre (*l*), half-litre, millilitre (*ml*)  
container

## **Time**

time  
*days of the week*: Monday, Tuesday...  
*months of the year*: January, February...  
*seasons*: spring, summer, autumn, winter  
day, week, fortnight, month, year, *century*  
weekend  
birthday, holiday  
*calendar, date*  
morning, afternoon, evening, night, midnight  
*am, pm*  
bedtime, dinnertime, playtime  
today, yesterday, tomorrow  
before, after  
next, last  
now, soon, early, late, *earliest, latest*  
quick, quicker, quickest, quickly  
fast, faster, fastest  
slow, slower, slowest, slowly

old, older, oldest  
new, newer, newest  
takes longer, takes less time  
how long ago?/how long will it be to...?  
how long will it take to...?  
hour, minute, second  
o'clock, half past, quarter to, quarter past  
clock, watch, hands  
digital/analogue clock/watch, timer  
how often?  
always, never, often, sometimes, usually  
once, twice

## **Shape and space**

shape, pattern  
flat, curved, straight  
round  
hollow, solid  
corner  
point, pointed  
face, side, edge, end  
sort  
make, build, draw  
surface  
*right-angled*  
*vertex, vertices*  
*layer, diagram*

## **3D shapes**

cube  
cuboid  
pyramid  
sphere, *hemi-sphere*  
cone  
cylinder  
*prism*

## **2D shapes**

circle, circular, *semi-circle*  
triangle, triangular  
square  
rectangle, rectangular  
star  
pentagon, *pentagonal*  
hexagon, *hexagonal*  
octagon, *octagonal*  
*quadrilateral*

## **Patterns and symmetry**

size  
bigger, larger, smaller  
symmetrical  
line of symmetry  
fold  
match  
mirror line, reflection  
pattern  
repeating pattern

## **Position, direction and movement**

position  
over, under, underneath  
above, below  
top, bottom, side  
on, in  
outside, inside  
around  
in front, behind  
front, back  
before, after  
beside, next to  
opposite  
apart  
between  
middle, edge  
centre  
corner  
direction  
journey, route, *map, plan*  
left, right  
up, down  
higher, lower  
forwards, backwards, sideways  
across  
close, far, near  
along  
through  
to, from, towards, away from  
*ascend, descend*  
*grid*  
*row, column*  
clockwise, anti-clockwise  
*compass point*  
*north, south, east, west, (N, S, E, W)*  
*horizontal, vertical*  
*diagonal*

movement  
slide  
roll  
whole turn, half turn, quarter turn  
*angle, ...is a greater/smaller angle than right angle*  
straight line  
stretch, bend

## **Instructions**

listen  
join in  
say  
recite

think  
imagine  
remember

start from  
start with  
start at

look at  
point to  
show me

put, place  
fit  
arrange, rearrange  
change, change over  
split  
separate

carry on, continue  
repeat  
what comes next?  
predict  
describe the pattern  
describe the rule

find, find all, find different  
investigate

choose  
decide  
collect

use  
make  
build

tell me  
describe  
name  
pick out  
discuss  
talk about  
explain  
explain your method  
explain how you got your answer  
give an example of...  
show how you...  
*show your working*

read  
write  
record  
write in figures

present  
represent  
*interpret*  
trace  
copy  
complete  
finish, end

fill in  
shade, colour  
label

tick, cross  
draw, *sketch*  
draw a line between  
join (up)  
ring  
arrow

cost, count, tally

calculate  
work out  
solve  
*investigate*  
*question*  
answer  
check

## General

same, different

missing number/s

number facts, number pairs, number bonds

*greatest value, least value*

number line, number track

number square, hundred square

number cards

number grid

abacus

counters, cubes, blocks, rods

die, dice

dominoes

pegs, peg board

geo-strips

same way, different way

best way, another way

in order, in a different order

not

all, every, each