

Count up and count down

10
times table

Activity

Give out one 0 card each to 12 children and ask them to stand together in a group. Ask 21 other children to form groups of 6, 5, 4, 3, 2 and 1 and give them each the correct number card for their group.

The child representing number 1 walks to the group of children with the 0 cards and takes a card from one of them. Child number 1 says: $1 \times 10 = 10$ and lays the 2 number cards, 1 and 0, on the floor as 10. The two children in group number 2 walk to the group of 12 children and take a 0 card, then say: $2 \times 10 = 20$ and lay the 2 cards on the floor as 20. This continues to 60.

At this stage the children will need to form new groups for numbers 7 and 8 (15 children), then reform again for numbers 9 and 10 (19 children) and for number 11 and number 12. While children are not in play, they can help with the chanting of the sums. When all of the numbers are laid out on the floor together, ask the children what they notice.

Extension/challenge

Ask children to pick up the cards one by one, in descending order, and chant the names of the multiples, counting backwards. For example: 120, 110, 100, 90, 80, 70, 60, 50, 40, 30, 20, 10.

If desired, make an extra 0 card to bring out at the end and allow the children to count down to zero and blast off around the room as rockets!

Learning objective

Visualising and practising counting on in tens in ascending and descending order to create the 10 times table.

Preparation

- Number cards 1-12
- 12 or 13 '0' (zero) cards.

Number of players

Ideally 36. If there are fewer children, adults may join in with the groups.

