

# Year 1 Counting: A Step-by-Step Guide for Parents

This step-by-step explanation to counting can help you support your child's learning at home. The subject is broken down into manageable chunks, providing you with a simple guide to follow when exploring counting together, either as part of homework or if you decide to give your child some extra support. Whether your child is only just beginning to explore numbers, or they are gaining confidence with counting and want to find out more, you will find a step that matches where your child is at, then have ideas for where to go next.

Within **this area of the website**, you will find a selection of resources intended to help your child learn about each step of this guide. Each step also contains a keyword or phrase that you can use to search the Twinkl site for more resources and activities designed to support your child in achieving that stage. Simply type the keyword or phrase into the search bar and press enter to explore together.

 

We hope you find the information on our website and resources useful. The contents of this resource are for general, informational purposes only. This guide is intended to offer parents general guidance on what subject areas tend to be covered in their child's year group and where they could support their children at home. However, please be aware that every child is different and information can quickly become out of date. There are some subject areas that we have intentionally not covered due to the nature of how they are taught or because a trained professional needs to teach these areas. We try to ensure that the information in our resources is correct but every school teaches the national curriculum in its own way. If you would like further guidance or are unsure in any way, we recommend that you speak to your child's teacher or another suitably qualified professional.

# Year 1 Counting

## What Will My Child Learn about Counting in Year 1?

The main focus of maths teaching at school in years 1 and 2 is to ensure your child is confident with whole numbers, counting and place value.

In terms of counting, in year 1 your child should be taught how to count forwards and backwards to and across 100, beginning with 0 or 1 or from any number they are given as a starting point. They will also be taught how to count, read and write numbers up to 100 in numerals, as well as to count in multiples of 2s, 5s and 10s. In addition, your child may be asked to count one more or one less than a given number.

As well as using the resources in this category and the keyword searches to find activities to help with counting, below are a few further ideas you could try at home to help your child make progress in this area of maths.

### Meaningful Counting

Often, the best way for children to learn is by engaging in real-life situations that mean something to them. When you're out and about with your child, give them opportunities to count real objects, such as cars while you're waiting at the bus stop or the number of birds you see when you're playing in the park.

### Counting in 2s, 5s and 10s

Use this **number square** to encourage your child to count in multiples. Ask them to colour in all the multiples of 2 in one colour, all the multiples of 5 in another colour and all the multiples of 10 in a different colour. What do they notice? Are there any numbers that are multiples of 2, 5 and 10? What patterns have they made?

### First to 100

Download this **hundred square** resource. Colour a selection of squares spaced across the resource blue, another selection red, another selection brown and another selection black. Take it in turns to roll two dice and move a counter or coin to represent the number rolled. If you land on a blue square, you can move to the next blue square, for a red square, go back to the previous red square, for the brown square you're stuck until you roll an even number and for the black square you get another go. The first to 100 wins.

### Count the Spots

Use these free **Count the Spots Activity Cards** to help your child practise counting up to 20. Use them as flashcards to help your child gain confidence and fluency with number.

## Step 1

### Count Forwards and Backwards to 20

In maths lessons at school, children will be encouraged to extend their knowledge of counting in reception, to count forwards and backwards to 20. They should be encouraged to think about the suffix '-teen' and what this tells us. For example, 14 means one ten and four ones. You can use these number and quantity matching cards and missing number activity sheet to help your child practise counting forwards and backwards to 20.



### Count to 100

Encourage your child to use their counting skills to count forwards and backwards to 100 by using a hundred square to help them. This activity sheet asks children to extend number sequences, both forwards and backwards, by filling in the missing numbers or you can try some missing number puzzles to help your child practise counting confidently.

## Step 2

## Step 3

### Count One More and One Less

This set of maths mastery challenge cards can help to reinforce your child's learning of the concept of one more and one less, encouraging them to use and apply their knowledge of this area of maths to deepen their understanding.

### Count in 2s, 5s and 10s

At this stage, your child will be encouraged to count in multiples of 2s, 5s and 10s up to 50, then 100. You can use this PowerPoint to help your child practise this key skill.

## Step 4



# Explore and Discover More

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Boost

Twinkl Boost is a range of intervention resources, created to support and lift learning with children at every level. These include our easy-to-use SATs and Phonics Screening resources.



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Imagine resources are designed to help your children to think creatively, question and imagine. Every week, a new topic consisting of five photos, each with related activities, is created.

Twinkl Originals are engaging stories written to inspire children from EYFS to KS2. Designed to encourage a love of reading and help curriculum-wide learning through accompanying resources.



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KIDS' TV

Twinkl Kids' TV is our wonderful YouTube channel dedicated to fun and informative video-style resources full of new and creative activities you can try at home!