

THE NUMERACY NOOK

Hello Everyone

In this issue, we will continue to look at how your child develops their counting skills. When learning to count, children typically progress through four phases of development: **Pre-counting**, **Concrete counting**, **Abstract counting** and **Strategic counting**.

In this issue, we will look at what to expect if your child is in the **Abstract Counting** phase.

In this stage, children are able to count objects which cannot be seen or felt. They learn to count numbers **without** concrete objects e.g. counters. At school, students will learn to 'count on' (judging the largest number in the sum and counting on from that number) to solve simple addition number sentences. They will also learn to 'count back' to solve simple subtraction number sentences.

Some verbal activities which you can do at home to support your child in this stage are:

- Practice counting by 1's forwards and backwards to/from 20 and then progressing to numbers up to 100.
- Finding the number before/after without counting from 1 each time e.g. Which number is before 20? Which number comes after 31?
- Practice skip counting aloud initially by 10's up to 100. Then by 2's up to 40 and 5's up to 100. Discover patterns with your child e.g. When we count by 5's, the numbers all end in '5' or '0'. When we count by 10's, the numbers all end in '0'.

Most importantly, keep these activities fun and enjoyable for your child. Thank you for supporting your child with their counting skills development.

Maths Curriculum Team