

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 , numeral, quantity
zero, one, two, three... to twenty and beyond
zero, ten, twenty... one hundred
zero, one hundred, two hundreds... one thousand
none
how many...?
count, count (up) to
count on (from, to)
count back (from, to)
between
count in ones, twos, threes, fours, fives and so on
count in tens, *hundreds*
more, less, many, few, greater than, less than, equal to
tally
odd, even
every other
how many times?
multiple of
sequence
continue
predict
pattern, pair, rule
relationship

Place value and ordering

Ones, tens, hundreds
digit
one-, two- or three-digit number
'teens' number
place, place value
stands for, represents
regroup, exchange
the same number as, as many as
equal to

balance
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, middle, centre
twenty-first, twenty-second...
last, last but one
before, after

first, then
next
between, half-way between
above, below

Estimating

guess how many, estimate
nearly, roughly, close to
approximate, approximately (inc difference between approximate and estimate)
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

names of fractions as nouns ... sevenths etc

Calculations

Addition and subtraction

+, add, addition, more, plus
sum, total

Part and part equals whole
Commutative
Addend plus addend equals whole
Minuend subtract subtrahend equals difference

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, equal value
tens boundary, *hundreds boundary*

Multiplication and division

lots of, groups of
x, times, *multiplication*, multiply, multiplied by
multiple of, *product* Factor multiplied by factor equals product
Multiplier and multiplicand
Dividend divided by divisor equals quotient
once, twice, three times as many, 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?
How do you know?
Is there another way?
Have you found all the ways?
Can you prove it?
Why did you do it that way?
Strategy

number sentence, calculation
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 (and origins of words)
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 & Weight

Mass and weight and difference between

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

Capacity & Volume (should know difference between)

capacity

volume

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

parallel, perpendicular, horizontal

pairs of lines

3Dimensional shapes

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

2Dimensional 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, three quarter turn

angle, ...is a greater/smaller angle than right angle
straight line
stretch, bend

Instructions

listen
join in
say
recite
represent
correct

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

What's the same, different about ...?

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

bar model

base ten

same way, different way

best way, another way

in order, in a different order

not

all, every, each