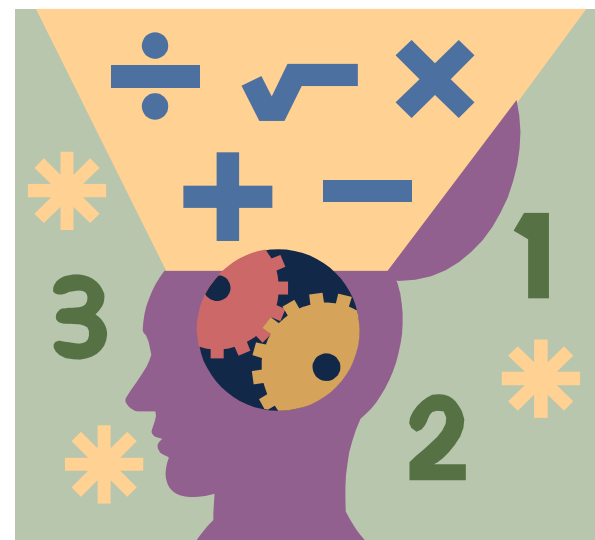


Supporting Children to Learn Basic Number Facts



Herts. SpLD Outreach Service - promoting the expertise of schools to meet the needs of learners with specific learning difficulties through advisory work, training and exemplar teaching

Supporting Children to Learn

Basic Number Facts

- ✓ Avoid holding the child back just because they have difficulty with the recall of number facts.
- ✓ Keep a personal log of number facts they do know.
- ✓ Teach & practise composition & decomposition of numbers as a strategy for the recall of number facts. (Cuisenaire & Numicon as support materials).
- ✓ Get a memo book or make prompt cards where pupils can record information they have trouble remembering - number facts, working methods, mnemonics.
- ✓ The recording method must be taught in conjunction with the physical manipulation of material so the children understand what they are doing & how it relates to place value.
- ✓ Teach a small number of facts at one time - provide lots of learning & practise & repeated revision.
- ✓ Provide a number line, charts, tables & concrete resources to help.

- ✓ Teach & encourage the use of calculators to provide accurate number facts.
- ✓ Develop an understanding of reverses & turnarounds, eg $6 + 5 = 11$, $5 + 6 = 11$, $11 - 5 = 6$, $11 - 6 = 5$ are all part of the same 'family'.
- ✓ Ask if this is the answer what would the question be.
- ✓ Use computer games to practise number facts, eg Number Shark.
- ✓ Teach tricks, eg $4 \times$ a number is double its double and to know 8 times you double it again.
- ✓ Use empty number charts etc to get pupils to fill in the answers rather than reciting tables. This helps develop strategies & mini calculations.
- ✓ Estimation may be difficult so children might need explicit instruction & plenty of guided practise. Making charts & posters can help if a chart tells them $60 + 60 = 120$ then it will help them estimate that $56 + 57$ will be slightly less than 120.