

# Number Gym

Skyswood subscribes annually to Number Gym and we work closely with the co-founder, Mel Rust. The Bondbuilder and Table Trainer resources are excellent for early number work and support the learning of times tables.

[www.numbergym.co.uk/](http://www.numbergym.co.uk/)

Enter the site and click on the [Schools Online](#) tab at the top of the page.

You can enter any of the areas and log in (all lower case.)

User name: **skyswood**

Password: **chandlers**

All of our children have their own individual log-ins for Number Gym.

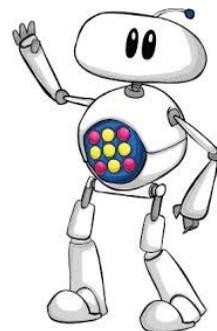


With Table Trainer, children can set their own targets, aiming for 'quick thinking' or 'lightning fast.' There are also 'mixed' tables challenges!

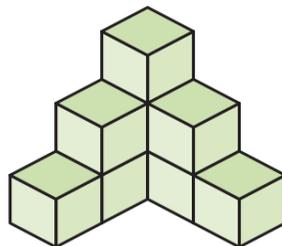
This is just one of many excellent resources that can be found on the Number Gym, have fun exploring the site with your children.

# [www.mymaths.co.uk/](http://www.mymaths.co.uk/) and Manga High

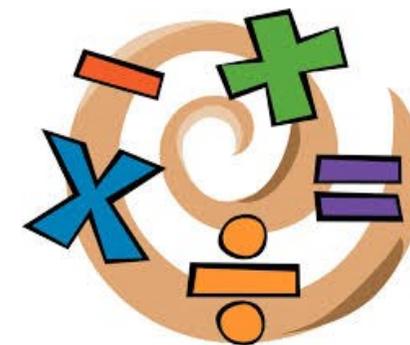
Some of the home learning tasks that we set will relate to the [mymaths.co.uk](http://www.mymaths.co.uk) website and Manga High . Each child will be given a personal three-digit log in for easy access to my maths.co.uk at home.



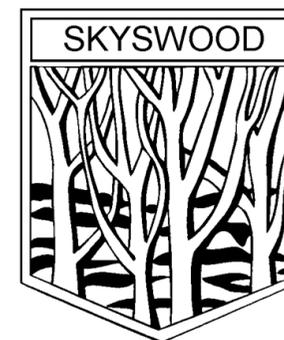
These tasks can be completed on-line and self-assessed. Teachers will have access to a Management Tool that provides an overview of how long each child has spent on their home learning tasks, which questions were answered successfully, and which questions were self-corrected. Home learning will be followed up in school, with teachers focusing on the key areas that need to be expanded upon or addressed.



# Parent Information Booklet



Supporting your child in  
Mathematics



Skyswood Primary &  
Nursery School

## Card and Board Games

Many children love playing board games and card games at home. They very rarely look upon this as Maths. Games undoubtedly support children in their confidence and manipulation of number, and often consolidate a wider range of mathematical concepts.

Why not throw 'two' dice when playing board games such as snakes and ladders. Children will then start to put simple numbers together rather than just learning visual representations for the numbers 1 to 6.



If children have the opportunity to play lots of games at home this can have undoubted benefits in many areas of learning, both socially and academically.

## Cooking and Shopping

Many children love to help with cooking and shopping. These activities provide excellent opportunities to consolidate maths skills, including estimating, comparing weights and measures, and of course handling money!

It is of great benefit if children have regular experience at home of weighing ingredients out and estimating quantities. The most powerful learning in Maths is where learning can be purposefully applied to **real-life experiences**.



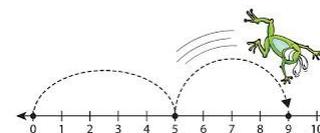
Look at food labels to see how much products weigh, point out containers that hold a litre, or two litres. What is the capacity of a can of drink?

A sound knowledge of what a litre looks like, what a kilogram or half a kilogram feels like, and knowing that there are 1000 millilitres in a litre and 1000 grams in a kilogram will really help your child when it comes to estimating more complex weights and measures.

## The importance of counting on...

As children develop their confidence with number they come to realise the importance of counting on. Skills of counting on inevitably support a much wider range of mental calculation strategies.

We often assume that 'counting' should start at 1 and go forwards. In developing a secure grasp of number, children should be encouraged to count from different starting points (both forwards and backwards) and, when counting back, why stop at zero?



A fundamental early skill is counting on to ten. How many more are needed when you are at seven? Pairs to ten are crucial and it really helps early on if your child knows that 3 and 7, 2 and 8, 5 and 5 etc... ALL MAKE TEN!

Counting to the next ten is the next step... How many from 14 to get to 20, or from 52 to get to 60. A firm grasp of pairs to ten helps children to develop a secure and efficient mastery of many mental calculation strategies.

Mental calculations to the nearest hundred take this a step further. If your child knows that (starting at 63) they can add 30 to get to 93 and then another 7 to get up to a hundred, this will help them with more complex mental calculations and strategies later on.