

**Mathematical Vocabulary Children in Year 2**  
**Should know, understand, use and be learning to**  
**read/spell.** (*Words new to Year 2 are emphasised.*)

**Counting, properties of numbers and number sequences**

number

zero, one, two, three... to twenty and beyond

zero, ten, twenty... one hundred

zero, one hundred, *two hundred... one thousand*

none

how many...?

count, count (up) to

count on (from, to)

count back (from, to)

count in ones, twos, *threes, fours, fives and so on*

count in tens

more, less, many, few

*tally*

odd, even

every other

how many times?

*multiple of*

*sequence*

*continue*

*predict*

pattern, pair, *rule*

**Place value and ordering**

units, ones

tens, *hundreds*

digit

*one-, two- or three-digit number*

'teens' number

*place, place value*

*stands for, represents*

*exchange*

the same number as, as many as

equal to

*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 less, ten less

compare  
order  
size  
first, second, third... tenth... twentieth  
*twenty-first, twenty-second...*  
last, last but one  
before, after  
next  
between, half-way between  
above, below

## **Estimating**

guess how many, estimate  
nearly, roughly, close to  
about the same as  
just over, just under  
*exact, exactly*  
too many, too few, enough, not enough  
round, nearest, round to the nearest ten

## **Fractions**

*part, equal parts*  
*fraction*  
*one whole*  
*one half, two halves*  
*one quarter, two... three... four quarters*

## **Calculations**

### **Addition and subtraction**

+, add, *addition*, more, plus  
make, sum, total  
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 less is... than...?  
how much fewer is...?  
difference between

half, halve  
=, equals, sign, is the same as  
*tens boundary*

## **Multiplication and division**

*lots of, groups of*  
*x, times, multiply, multiplied by*  
*multiple of*  
*once, twice, three times,*  
*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*  
 $\div$ , divide, *divided by, divided into*, left, left over

## **Solving problems**

## **Making decisions and reasoning**

pattern, puzzle  
*calculate, calculation*  
*mental calculation*  
*jotting*  
answer  
right, *correct*, wrong  
what could we try next?  
how did you work it out?  
number sentence  
sign, operation, symbol

## **Money**

money  
coin  
penny, pence, pound, (£)  
price, cost  
buy, *bought*, sell, *sold*  
spend, spent  
pay  
change  
dear, costs more

cheap, costs less, cheaper  
how much...? how many...?  
total

## **Organising and using data**

count, *tally*, sort, vote  
*graph, block graph, pictogram*  
*represent*  
group, set  
list, table  
*label, title*  
*most popular, most common*  
*least popular, least common*

## **Measures, shape and space**

### **Measures (general)**

measure  
size  
compare  
*measuring scale*  
guess, estimate  
enough, not enough  
too much, too little  
too many, too few  
nearly, roughly, about, close to, about the same as  
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  
metre (*m*), *centimetre (cm)*  
ruler, metre stick, tape measure

### **Mass**

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

## Capacity

*capacity*

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

weekend

birthday, holiday

morning, afternoon, evening, night, midnight

bedtime, dinnertime, playtime

today, yesterday, tomorrow

before, after

next, last

now, soon, early, late

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*

### **3D shapes**

cube  
cuboid  
pyramid  
sphere  
cone  
cylinder

### **2D shapes**

circle, *circular*  
triangle, *triangular*  
square  
rectangle, *rectangular*  
star  
*pentagon*  
*hexagon*  
*octagon*

### **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*  
left, right  
up, down  
*higher, lower*  
forwards, backwards, sideways  
across  
close, far, near  
along  
through  
to, from, towards, away from  
*clockwise, anti-clockwise*  
movement  
slide  
roll  
whole turn, half turn, *quarter turn*  
*right angle*  
*straight line*  
stretch, bend

## **Instructions**

listen  
join in  
say  
*recite*

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...*

read  
write  
record  
*write in figures*  
*present*  
*represent*  
trace

copy  
complete  
finish, end

fill in  
shade, colour  
*label*

tick, cross  
draw



draw a line between  
join (up)  
ring  
arrow

cost, count, *tally*

*calculate*  
work out  
*solve*  
answer  
check

## **General**

same, different  
missing number/s  
number facts  
*number pairs*  
*number bonds*

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*

same way, different way  
best way, another way  
in order, in a different order  
not  
all, every, each