Area of Learning: Mathematics Number

Concept: Composition

Knowing numbers are made up of two or more other smaller numbers involves 'part—whole' understanding. Learning to 'see' a whole number and its parts at the same time is a key development in children's number understanding. Partitioning numbers into other numbers and putting them back together again underpins understanding of addition and subtraction as inverse operations.

inverse operations.							
Typical progression		Part-whole: identifying smaller	Inverse operations	A number can be partitioned	A number can be partitioned	Number bonds: knowing which	
within this concept		numbers within a number		into different pairs of numbers	into more than two numbers	pairs make a given number	
		(conceptual subitising – seeing					
		groups and combining to a					
		total)					
Progression steps		I can group objects together (e.g.					
to enable typical	3	in a selection of 5 items of					
progression within	0 to	crockery group all of the cups					
this concept	0	and the plates)					
		I can split 3 objects into different	I know when I have split a set of				
		groups (e.g. I can give 3 bears	3 objects into groups, if I collect				
		one spoon each, I can give	them back together there will				
		mummy bear 2 spoons so she	still be 3.				
		can feed baby bear and herself					
	ars	but daddy bear can feed himself)					
	4 years	I can split 5 objects into different	I know when I have split a set of				
	4	groups	5 objects into groups, if I collect				
	to		them back together there will				
	3		still be 5.				
		I can split 10 objects into	I know when I have split a set of	I can partition 3 objects into	I can partition 5 objects into	I can remember the number	
		different groups	10 objects into groups, if I collect	different pairs of numbers	different amounts of numbers	bonds that total 2.	
			them back together there will		(e.g. 1, 1, 1, 1, 1; 2, 1, 1, 1;)	Lean romember the number	
			still be 10.			I can remember the number	
						bonds that total 3.	
				I can partition 5 objects into		I can remember the number	
				different pairs of numbers		bonds that total 4.	
						I can remember the number	
						bonds that total 5.	
				I can partition 10 objects into	I can partition 10 objects into	I can remember some of the	
				different pairs of numbers	different amounts of numbers	number bonds that total	
	_				(e.g. 1, 1, 1, 1, 1; 2, 1, 1, 1;)	numbers 6-10.	
	Reception					I know what the word double	
	ер					means.	
	Sec					I know the doubles for numbers	
	~					0-5	
Guidance from		Children need opportunities to see	Children need opportunities to	Children need opportunities to	Children need opportunities to	Children need opportunities to say	
NCETM progressi	on	small numbers within a larger	partition a number of things into two	explore a range of ways to partition	explore the different ways that	how many are hidden in a known	
document	J	collection. 'Number talks' allow	groups, and to recognise that those	a whole number. The emphasis here	numbers can be partitioned, i.e. into	number of things. For example: 'Five	
uocument		children to discuss what they see. For instance, with giant ladybirds: 'There	groups can be recombined to make the same total. Encourage children to	is on identifying the pairs of numbers that make a total. Children can do	more than two groups. Situations to promote this include increasing the	toys go into a tent, then two come out. How many are left in the tent?'	
		are 5 spots altogether. I can see 4	say the whole number that the	this in two ways – physically	number of pots to put a given	The child should respond that there	
		a.e. o opolo unogenien reun set 4	'parts' make altogether.	and in the ways physically	names of pots to para given	are still three toys in the tent.	

and 1, I can see 3 and 2, and I can	separating a group, or constructing a	amount into, e.g. planting ten seeds
see 1 and 1 and 1 and 1.'	group from two kinds of things.	into three or more pots.
Encourage exploration of all the		
ways that 'five' can be and look.		
Children are encouraged to look		
closely at numbers to see what else		
they can see. This reinforces the		
concept of conservation.		