

NSW Department of Education and Training Curriculum K12 Directorate

Primary Maths Connections is available as an RSS Feed and provides primary school leaders and teachers with updates and information relevant to the teaching of mathematics and numeracy in primary schools. To subscribe to this RSS Feed, go to <http://www.curriculumsupport.education.nsw.gov.au/primary/mathematics/rss/index.htm>

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Click on coloured text to access hyperlinks.

What do students learn in Kindergarten?

What do children know about number when they start school?

The current expectations of the first year of school in NSW are that students can count to 30 and represent numbers to 20 with objects, pictures, numerals and words. One of the interesting things to come out of the [Best Start](#) Kindergarten numeracy assessment is that approximately 15% of students appear to be able to do this on entry to school. Contrasting with this is that about 10% of students cannot count to 10 when they start Kindergarten. When it comes to identifying numerals, over 50% of students can identify the numerals up to 10 when starting school and this applies equally to students whose language background is not English. Further information on the [Best Start](#) program is available from <http://www.curriculumsupport.education.nsw.gov.au/beststart/index.htm>

National Literacy and Numeracy Week

The [National Literacy and Numeracy Week](#) website provides a number of resources that are of interest to teachers. Notable amongst them are two videos, one for teachers and one for parents, featuring Professor Janette Bobis discussing uses for the empty number line to assist students' mental computation. These and other videos and audio material can be accessed in the [Resources](#) section of the website at <http://www.nlnw.nsw.edu.au/events.htm>

Resources

Fractions: pikelets and lamingtons is a resource produced by [Curriculum K-12](#) that was distributed to all primary schools in 2003. It provides activities for students to develop a conceptual understanding of fractions. It highlights the role of equal parts and collections of parts that form new units. The resource includes a CD with four interactive learning objects.

Although the CD has worked well up to now, a problem has developed recently that prevents access to its contents. The materials in the CD can still be accessed:

1. Insert the CD into your computer's disc drive.
2. When it attempts to open on **AutoRun**, close it.
3. Go to **My Computer** and right click on the CD drive.
4. In the drop-down menu, go to **Open**. This will enable you to see the folders in the CD.
5. Open the **PC Resources** folder to see the four learning objects. Save them in your computer. You will now be able to use each learning object from your computer.





The [Best Start Lighthouse project](#) aims to connect schools that are making significant progress in student achievement in the early years of schooling with other schools that have similar backgrounds and challenges. Its goal is for schools to share successful strategies for improving student early learning in literacy and numeracy. This term, seven schools involved in the project were involved in the production of short video clips which will be included on the [Best Start](#) website. The footage includes snippets of classroom lessons, interviews with teachers, school executives, principals and parents. This footage, together with school profiles, could be used to assist in developing future strategic school plans and targets.

Count Me In Too



With the rollout of technology programs to schools, teachers should now have access to the Acrobat Pro program. This program can be used to make a PDF document of the interactive learning objects from the [Count Me In Too](#) website, retaining the interactive functionality. To do this:

1. In the [Count Me In Too](#) website, go to the [children's page](#).
2. Select an activity.
3. Go to the left of the top navigation bar. Click on the down arrow next to the **Convert** button.
4. Click **Convert web page to PDF**. Save the PDF file to your files so that you can open it at a later time.
5. When prompted, select to add this document to your list of trusted documents.

The learning object will keep its interactivity. There will not be a need to be on the internet to use it.

Please note that using this process with web pages that are not part of the NSW Department of Education and Training website may constitute a breach of copyright.



Counting On

The [Counting On](#) website has now been updated and includes the most recent materials provided to schools that are implementing the program. It contains information on the [Learning Framework In Number](#), [Newman's error analysis](#), learning objects, all of the classroom activities that were previously made available on CD (or folder, for those old enough to remember), video snippets of classroom activities and [evaluations](#) of previous *Counting On in the Middle Years* projects. The site has been placed on the intranet, so access can only be gained via a DET site or through your portal. The URL is https://detwww.det.nsw.edu.au/curr_support/maths/counting_on/
Why not check it out!



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