

Mathematical Connections

For numbers 1 - 5

Purpose

- Make connections between: the physical material, language and symbols, for numbers 1 to 5.
- To make connections about numbers in relation to other numbers. For example, 4 is one less than 5.

Activity

The teacher or leader rolls a dice. Students make this amount on their hand and say the matching number word. Then students fill their frame with the amount of counters rolled on the dice.

Teacher Notes

This is a subitising activity. Students need to see and make the quantity without counting by ones. Students can see the quantities of one, two and three without counting.

Four is seen as one less than five. Explicitly relate the number of cells on the five frame to the five fingers on their hand. When making four on their hand, one finger is held down, this matches the empty cell on the five fame.

Students do NOT clear the frame of counters after making each number. Instead students alter the number of counters on the frame to make the new quantity. Doing this helps students learn about the comparative size of numbers. For example, 4 is 1 less than 5.



... is one less than five."

Variations

Alter the activity by changing the representation on the face of the dice. You will need to use a Pocket Dice. Follow this progression using dice with:

- Finger images.
- The written number word.
 This is said by the teacher,
 NOT read by the student.
- Numbers 0 to 5.

Once students are fluent making each of these quantities, saying the matching word and recognising the matching written number repeat this activity, altering it so that students represent *one more* than was rolled by the teacher. Once students have mastered this progress to having students represent *one less* than was rolled by the teacher.









What are Pocket Dice?

Pocket Dice are large, soft dice with clear pockets on all six faces.



Specific designs vary, but generally each face measures 10 × 10 centimetres. Different inserts are placed in the pockets to provide an unlimited range of options. The dice can be used for whole class activities, or for small group or pairs work.

More Inserts and Activities

For more Pocket Dice activities and inserts suitable for use in Foundation to Year Two, see **Pocket Dice Book A** for sale at drpaulswan.com.au



Fingers (0 - 5)



Numbers (0 - 5)



Number Words (0 - 5)

zero	one
two	three
four	five