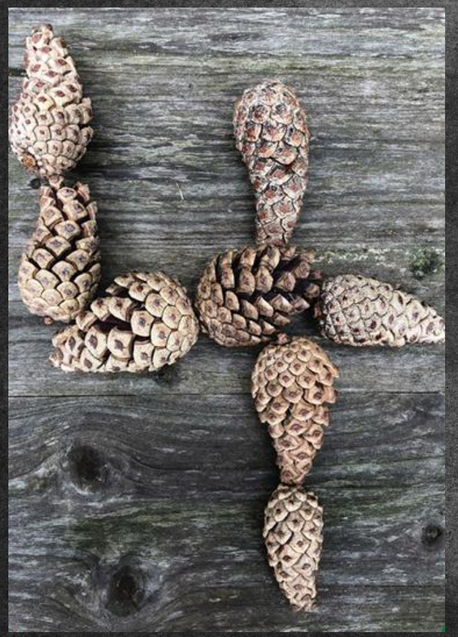
EYFS MATHEMATICS

Mrs Allison & Mrs Johnson

Subitising & Number Recognition

Subitising and number recognition are two of the most important foundations of early mathematical development in the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS). They help children develop a deep understanding of number, which is essential for later success in counting, calculation and problem-solving..





What is subitising?

Subitising is the ability to recognise the number of objects in a small group without needing to count them individually.

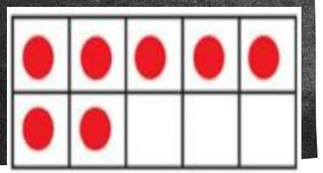
1

•Perceptual subitising: Instantly recognising small quantities (usually up to 4 or 5).



2

•Conceptual subitising: Seeing larger numbers as groups of smaller numbers (e.g. recognising 6 as two groups of 3).



Why is subitising important?



Helps develop strong number sense



Helps children understand that numbers represent quantities.



Supports with recognising patterns in numbers and builds mental calculation skills.



Develops fluency and understanding around part-part-whole relationships

Why is number recognition important?

A child who instantly recognises the numeral 4 and can connect it to a group of four counters is demonstrating an important understanding that supports later learning such as:

- 4 + 2 = 6
- One more than 4 is 5

Four objects can be grouped in different ways









Cardinality and Counting

Understanding that the cardinal value of a number refers to the quantity, or ‘howmanyness’ of things it represents





Comparison

Understanding that comparing numbers involves knowing which numbers are worth more or less than each other

Composition

Understanding that one number can be made up from (composed from) two or more smaller numbers





Pattern

Looking for and finding patterns helps children notice and understand mathematical relationships

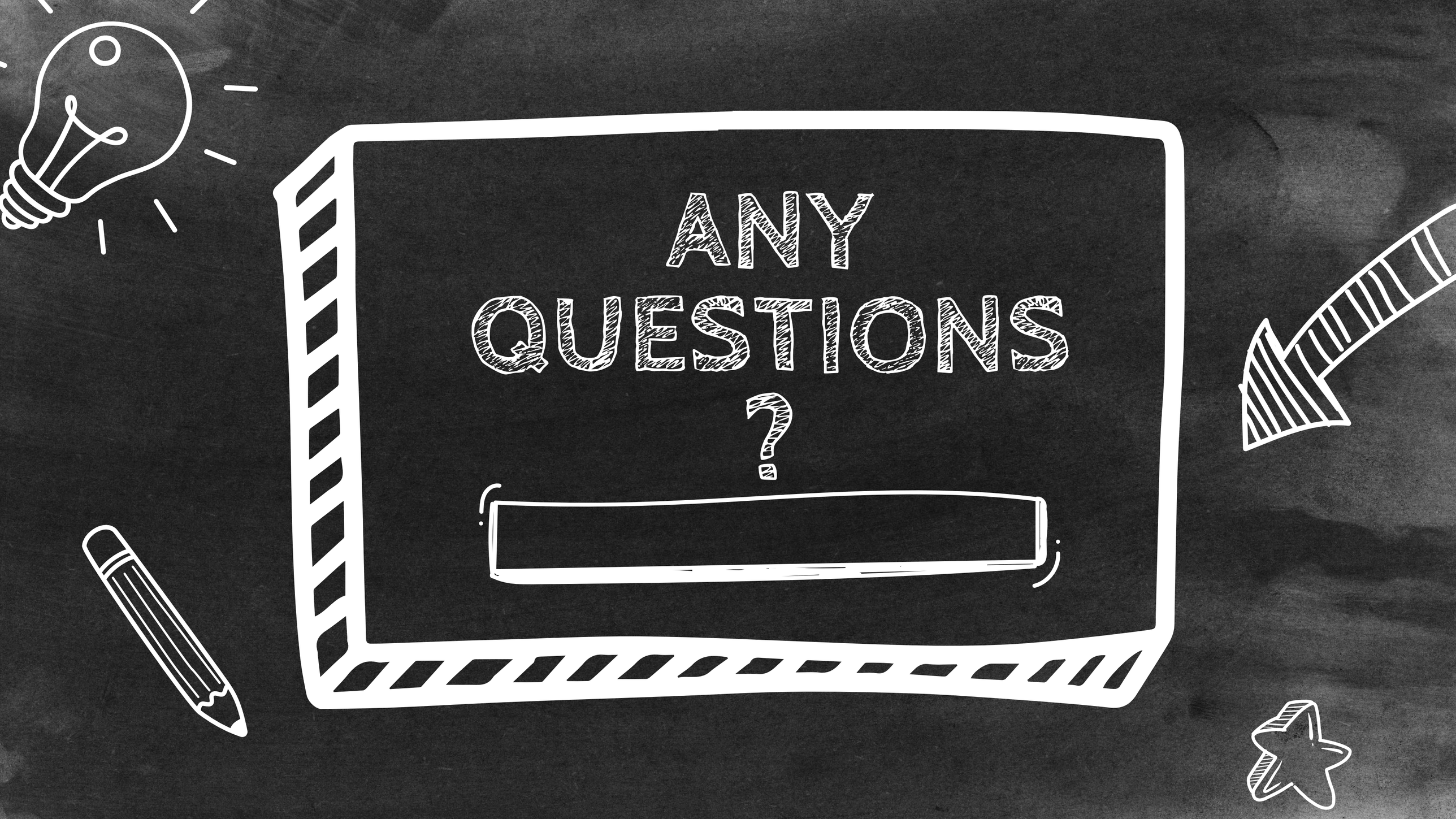
Shape and Space

Understanding what happens when shapes move, or combine with other shapes, helps develop wider mathematical thinking



Measures

Comparing different aspects such as length, weight and volume, as a preliminary to using units to compare later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