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NCETM
NATIONAL CENTRE FOR EXCELLENCE
IN THE TEACHING OF MATHEMATICS

[NCETM Numberblocks materials](#) (PowerPoints to accompany Series 1, 2 and 3)

Series	Episode title	Episode summary	Mathematics
1	One	Learn all about the number one with Numberblock One.	Counting to 1
1	Another One	One bumps into a magic mirror and meets another One.	2 is more than 1
1	Two	Learn all about the number two with Numberblock Two.	Counting to 2, the 'twoness' of 2
1	Three	Learn all about the number three with Numberblock Three.	3 is more than 2
1	One, Two, Three!	Three does magic tricks with apples.	Counting to 3; comparing numbers 1, 2 and 3 – 'bigger' and 'smaller'; ordering numbers 1 to 3; 3 is made of 2 and 1
1	Four	Learn all about the number four with Numberblock Four.	4 is more than 3; counting to 4; the structure of 4 as a square number; recognition of 4 items without counting (subitising)
1	Five	Learn all about the number five with Numberblock Five.	5 is more than 4; counting to 5; line up 1 to 5 in order
1	Three Little Pigs	The Numberblocks' version of the tale the Three Little Pigs and the Big Bad Square.	Counting to 4; adding 1s
1	Off We Go	Five and friends set off on a rhyming romp through field and forest.	Counting to 5; line up 1 to 5 in order; identify missing numbers within a 1 to 5 line-up
1	How to Count	It is a lovely day for a picnic, but one of the flapjacks is missing!	The key principles of counting: one-to-one correspondence; cardinality; stable order
1	Stampolines	Three opens a stampoline park, where her friends have splatty fun making inky prints.	Subitising numbers 1 to 5; different ways of arranging blocks to 5; conservation of number
1	The Whole of Me	The Numberblocks perform a song and dance all about the parts that make a whole.	Composition of numbers 1 to 5: introduction to 'part-part-whole' Structure; partitioning a whole number into parts; conservation of number
1	The Terrible Twos	Tricky twins turn up – the Terrible Twos – who decide it's time to tickle their friends.	4 can be partitioned into 2 and 2; and, 1 and 1 and 1 and 1.
1	Holes	Five and friends discover a hole that makes their heads fall off!	The number of a group can be changed by adding to it or taking from it; addition and subtraction of 1; number bonds to 5
1	Hide and Seek	Five is so good at hide-and-seek that she can find the others without looking up from her book.	Addition and subtraction of numbers to 5; number bonds to 5



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2	Six	The Numberblocks make a new friend who likes to roll dice.	Counting (1 to 6); subitising (dice patterns)
2	Seven	It's a rainy day for a picnic, but lucky number Seven makes everything come up rainbows.	7 is more than 6; counting (1 to 7)
2	Eight	Numberland is rocked by the arrival of superblock Eight, also known as Octoblock.	Counting (1 to 8); 8 is one more than 7; subitising (8)
2	Nine	Numberblock Nine arrives in Numberland and sings a song about squares.	Counting (1 to 9); the structure of square numbers (4 and 9); partitioning and combining 9
2	Ten	Ten turns up to tell the Numberblocks what it's like to be a perfect ten.	Counting (1 to 10); 10 ones are equivalent to one 10
2	Just Add One	One's idea of fun is singing, dancing and making friends by adding One.	Adding 1; counting (1 to 10)
2	Blast Off	Find out which pairs of numbers add together to make ten with the Numberblocks.	Count back from 10 to 1; number bonds that total 10
2	Counting Sheep	Six tries to get the sheep to sleep and finds two (or three) heads are better than one.	Exploring equivalent ways to represent 6; partitioning 6 into equal groups; factors of 6
2	Double Trouble	Learn how to double and halve numbers up to eight with the Numberblocks.	Doubling (1, 2, 4, 8) and halving; partitioning 8 into equal groups
2	The Three Threes	When Nine needs a helping hand, he turns into a talented trio – the Three Threes.	Partitioning 9 into 3 equal groups; partitioning is the inverse of combining
2	Odds and Evens	The Numberblocks play a game of bounceball, with Even Tops versus Odd Blocks.	Odd and even numbers; equal groups
2	Fluffies	One finds a furball, two of them tickle Two and soon Numberland is full of fluffies!	Counting (1 to 8); number bonds within 7
2	The Two Tree	The Numberblocks find a magic Two Tree and play an action-packed game of throwing twos.	Subtracting 2 from numbers up to 10; counting in 2s
2	Numberblock Castle	One, Two, Three and Four go on a castle-exploring adventure, making friends along the way.	Adding more than 1 to make 5 to 10
2	Ten Green Bottles	One of Ten's bottles accidentally falls off the wall, setting off a numery hullabaloo.	Subtracting 1; counting (1 to 10); counting down 10 to 1



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3	Once Upon a Time	A bedtime story all about the first five Numberblocks.	A review of numbers 1 to 5
3	Blockzilla	A monster tale of a colossal creature who really, really likes bigger numbers.	Comparison of numbers 1 to 5 using the language of 'greater than' and 'less than'
3	The Numberblocks Express	Learn all the number bonds up to five with the Numberblocks.	Composition of 5; partitioning and combining 5 in different ways
3	Fruit Salad	Find out how to split numbers into smaller numbers with the Numberblocks.	Composition of numbers to 5; exploring the part-part-whole model to partition and combine numbers to 5
3	Zero	Learn all about the number zero with Numberblock Zero.	Introducing the concept of zero; zero is one less than 1 and an absence of something
3	Now We Are Six to Ten	Learn all about the numbers 6, 7, 8, 9 and 10 with the Numberblocks.	A review of numbers 6 to 10
3	Numberblobs	Sing along to the Numberblocks counting song with the Numberblocks' favourite friends.	Counting to 10
3	Building Blocks	When an alien ship crashes in Numberland, the Numberblocks help the alien get back home.	Building with blocks and exploring space and pattern
3	Peekaboo!	The number friends take turns hiding behind each other in a song about bigger and smaller.	Comparison of numbers to 10 using the language of 'bigger than', 'smaller than' leading to 'greater than' and 'less than'
3	Hiccups	Every time Nine hiccups, he falls to pieces – until the others find an unexpected cure.	Composition of numbers to 10; partitioning and combining numbers in different ways
3	What's the Difference?	Seven shows the others how to be lucky: ask a number friend to jump on your head!	Comparison of numbers to 10; finding the difference to make 7
3	Numberblock Rally	Ten riders, ten pedal-powered cars. Welcome to the Numberblock Rally!	Subtraction
3	Five and Friends	Six to Ten discover they are all Five-and-a-friend.	Numbers 6 to 10 are made from 5 and a 'bit'
3	Octoblock to the Rescue!	The naughty Terrible Twos are making custard pies. Can Octoblock's friends save the day?	Pairs of numbers that total 8
3	Ten Again	When the number friends all want to do different things, Ten finds a way to do them all.	Pairs of numbers that total 10
3	Flatland	Four visits Flatland, where the flat shapes live, and becomes a real square.	2D shape



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3	Pattern Palace	One crosses the pattern puzzle paths over the magic moats to get to the Pattern Palace.	Pattern
3	The Legend of Big Tum	A monster with a big hairy tummy who loves puzzles? Find out who is in Big Tum's tum!	Problem solving and finding the missing number
3	Mirror, Mirror	One makes a wish that the magic mirror could make lots of friends at once.	Adding multiples of the same number
3	The Wrong Number	Learn how to be a number detective with the Numberblocks.	Problem solving – reasoning about number
3	The Way of the Rectangle	Twelve shows the other Numberblocks how to master the way of the rectangle.	Learn about numbers that make rectangle shapes (arrays)
3	Block Star	Twelve goes on a mission to save Numberland from the mysterious Block Star.	Partition 12 into equal groups
3	Ride the Rays	A fantastic treat awaits the Numberblocks at the top of Ray Canyon.	Solve problems involving arrays
3	Eleven	The Numberblocks make a new friend, football fan Eleven.	Number 11; 11 is 10 and 1
3	Twelve	Ten and two make Twelve, who discovers that she is a super-rectangle.	Number 12 and arrays
3	Fourteen	Meet extreme Fourteen, the plucky skateboarder.	Number 14; 14 is 10 and 4
3	Fifteen	Hush, hush! Agent Fifteen is here with a new way to save the day.	Number 15; 15 is 1+2+3+4+5
3	Tween Scenes	It's time for a bedtime story about all Numberblocks Eleven to Fifteen.	Exploring numbers 11, 12, 13, 14, and 15
3	Thirteen	Unlucky Thirteen falls apart whenever anyone mentions his name.	Number 13; 13 is 10 and 3
3	Step Squads	Only Step Squad can save One's balloon – but what if there's more than one Step Squad?	Other numbers made of consecutive numbers (3, 6, 10 and 15)



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4	Fifteen's Minute of Fame	The Numberblocks put on a talent show of terrific number tricks.	Numbers 1 to 15
4	On Your Head	When their numberlings fall off, the Numberblocks have to work out who they are.	Place value numbers 1 to 15
4	Ten's Place	Trainer Ten puts her friends through their paces with a high-energy number workout.	Learn about numbers that are 'ten and a bit'
4	Balancing Bridge	It's all in the balance as the Numberblocks try to make it across a very wobbly bridge.	Learn more about numbers that are 'ten and a bit' and adding
4	Sixteen	Learn all about the number 16 with Numberblock Sixteen!	Learn all about the number 16; 16 is 10 and 6
4	Square Club	Things get out of hand at a Square Club meeting. Can anyone save the day?	The structure of numbers up to 16 that make squares
4	Seventeen	Meet the artist known as Seventeen, who likes to paint 17 of everything.	Learn all about the number 17; 17 is 10 and 7
4	Eighteen	Meet Eighteen, the super speedy rectangle who was born to ride the rays.	Learn all about the number 18; 18 is 10 and 8
4	Loop the Loop	Super rectangle Eighteen shows the others how to ride the rays on the super-duper looper.	Learn more about numbers that can make rectangle shapes (arrays)
4	Nineteen	New Numberblock Nineteen discovers she is a one-off with a hidden talent.	Learn all about the number 19; 19 is 10 and 9
4	Twenty	Numberblock Twenty struts his stuff and dances the Two Tens Tango.	Learn all about the number 20; 20 is two tens
4	Tall Stories	It's time for a bedtime story about all Numberblocks Sixteen to Twenty.	Numbers 16 to 20
4	Flights of Fancy	Rocket Ten and friends blast off into space for a rhyming adventure.	Explore numbers 11 to 20 as ten-and-a-friend
4	I Can Count to Twenty	The Numberblobs challenge Twenty to a singing count-off.	Counting in steps forward and back
4	Heist	Can Sixteen to Twenty sneak past the robot guards at the Museum of Numbers?	Properties of numbers to 20
4	Sign of the Times	Super-speedy Eighteen discovers a faster way to add a number together lots of times.	Multiplication as repeated addition



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4	Fun Time Fair	Twelve helps the Numberblobs work out how many tokens they need for each fairground ride.	Multiplication as repeated addition
4	The Lair of Shares	Can One and friends escape the Lair of Shares?	The sharing structure of division
4	Terrible Twosday	Who can stop the invasion of the Terrible Twos?	The grouping structure of division
4	Divide and Drive	Three invites the other Numberblocks to her super new go-kart track.	Division involving the grouping structure
4	Twenty One and On	Twenty and chums find out what happens when you go past bus stop 20.	Learn about the numbers 21, 22 and 23
4	We're Going on a Square Hunt	The squares explore an ancient temple in search of a really, really big square.	Learn more about square numbers
4	Thirty's Big Top	Welcome to the Big Top, where Thirty and friends show off their circus tricks.	Learn about the numbers 30, 40 and 50
4	Land of the Giants	Five and friends discover a way to make themselves ten times bigger!	Learn how to count, add and think in multiples of 10
4	Fifty	Superstar Fifty rocks out the Numberland stadium with her shining gold guitar.	Count in steps of 5
4	Sixty's High Score	It's time to meet Sixty and friends in a rocket-powered game of How Many Tens.	Learn about the numbers 60, 70, 80
4	The Big One	One has found a way to keep adding Ones all the way to Ninety-nine. What comes next?	Learn to count to 99
4	One Hundred	One Hundred shows us what she's made of in a big song about being big.	Introduction to 100
4	One Thousand and One	One wonders if anyone could be bigger than One Hundred.	Learn about huge numbers
4	More to Explore	It's time for the grand finale but the number fun doesn't stop here.	Numbers are everywhere



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5	Your Turn	It's time for some bouncy fun as the Numberblobs take over the show.	Learn about number lines, comparing numbers, and more
5	Now You See Us	The Numberblocks discover a magic spell that makes them all invisible.	Learn how to write numbers with Numberblocks Zero to Nine
5	Ten's Top Ten	Ten presents a rundown of the top hit songs in Numberland.	Learn number bonds to 6, 7, 8, 9 and 10
5	What's My Number?	Welcome to the gameshow where you don't count, you see the amount!	Learn how to recognise numbers of things without counting them
5	Fun Times One Times Table	One goes in search of the legendary One Times Table.	Sing along and learn the one times table
5	The Many Faces Of Twenty	Twenty enters the Pattern Palace to find out who his Twenty-friends are.	Learn about number bonds to 20
5	Ten Vaulting	The Numberblocks compete in the finals of the Ten-vaulting contest.	Learn about adding past 10
5	Twoland	What if Two was the first Numberblock? Imagine that!	Learn about even numbers to 20
5	Two Times Shoe Shop	Two discovers a magical shoe shop and the even more magical Two Times Table.	Sing along and learn the two times table
5	Odd Side Story	How do the Odd Tops and Even Blocks work out who's best? Dance!	Learn about odd and even numbers to 20
5	How Rectangly!	Twenty-One helps some new friends find out how many rectangles they can make.	Learn about the numbers 23 and 24 and explore arrays
5	Rectangle Racers	At the Rays Track, Twenty-Four is ready to race all day and night!	Learn about the different arrays numbers can make
5	The Team Factor	Welcome to the Team Tag Arena for another exciting match – but who will be left standing?	Learn about numbers that can split into equal parts
5	Hidden Talents	Twenty-Six enters Fifteen's Talent Show... and finds some hidden talents!	Learn about the number 26 and how it splits into two thirteens
5	Making Patterns	Twenty-Seven and Twenty-Eight explore the new Pattern Wall at the Gallery.	Learn about the numbers 27 and 28 and explore number patterns