



**Te Poutāhū**  
Curriculum Centre

# Numeracy Beyond Mathematics

An Exploration of Three Effective  
Numeracy Practices



**Te Tāhuhu o  
te Mātauranga**  
Ministry of Education

# Kaupapa o te rā

This learning experience is designed to:

1. Help you reflect and build on what you are currently doing to support numeracy
2. Unpack 3 effective practices that support numeracy and identify how they can be implemented in your subject area
3. Introduce resources to support your next steps



# Your current practice

# What are 3 things that you have done to support numeracy in your classroom this week?

Numeracy	
1.	?
2.	?
3.	?



4



5 minutes

# What is Numeracy?

“Numeracy is a foundational skill that enables access to further learning, develops important life skills, and allows people to fully engage in work and in their communities”

- NCEA.ed

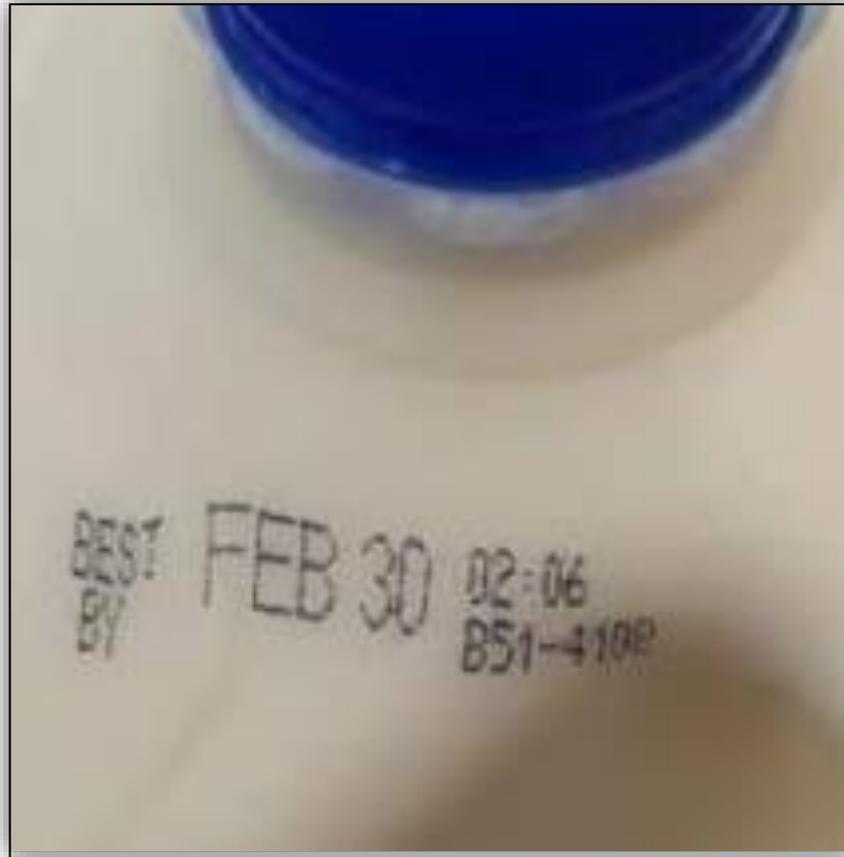
“Numeracy includes knowledge, skills and behaviours that are needed to be able use mathematics and statistics **purposefully** in a wide range of situations including real-life contexts. Learners become numerate as they develop their ability to **apply** mathematical and statistical knowledge and skills purposefully **across all learning areas** and in their lives to achieve their goals”

- Literacy Communication and Maths strategy

# Milk bottle activity

## Discuss:

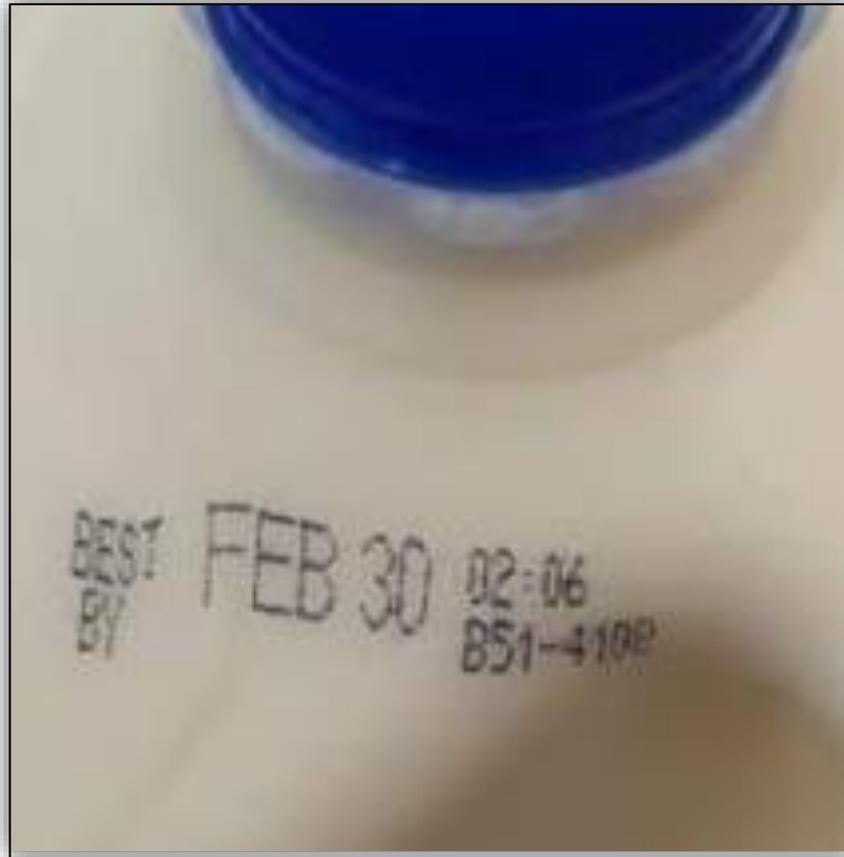
Which bottle would you buy? Why?



# Milk bottle activity

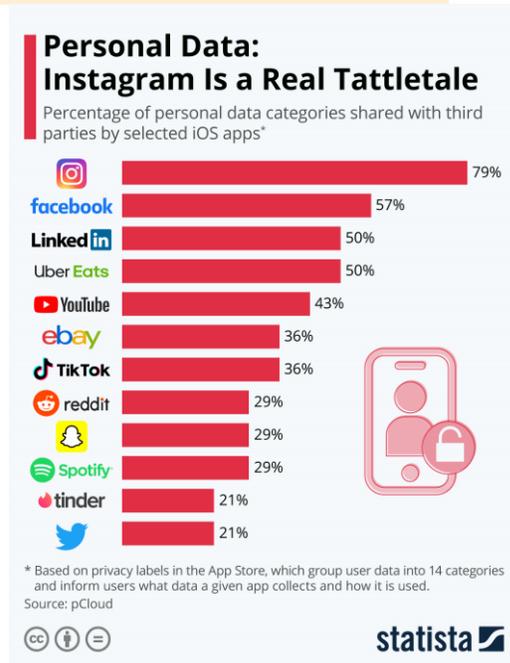
## Discuss:

Where numeracy occurs in your subject?



# Infographic activity

These are examples of infographics we often find around us



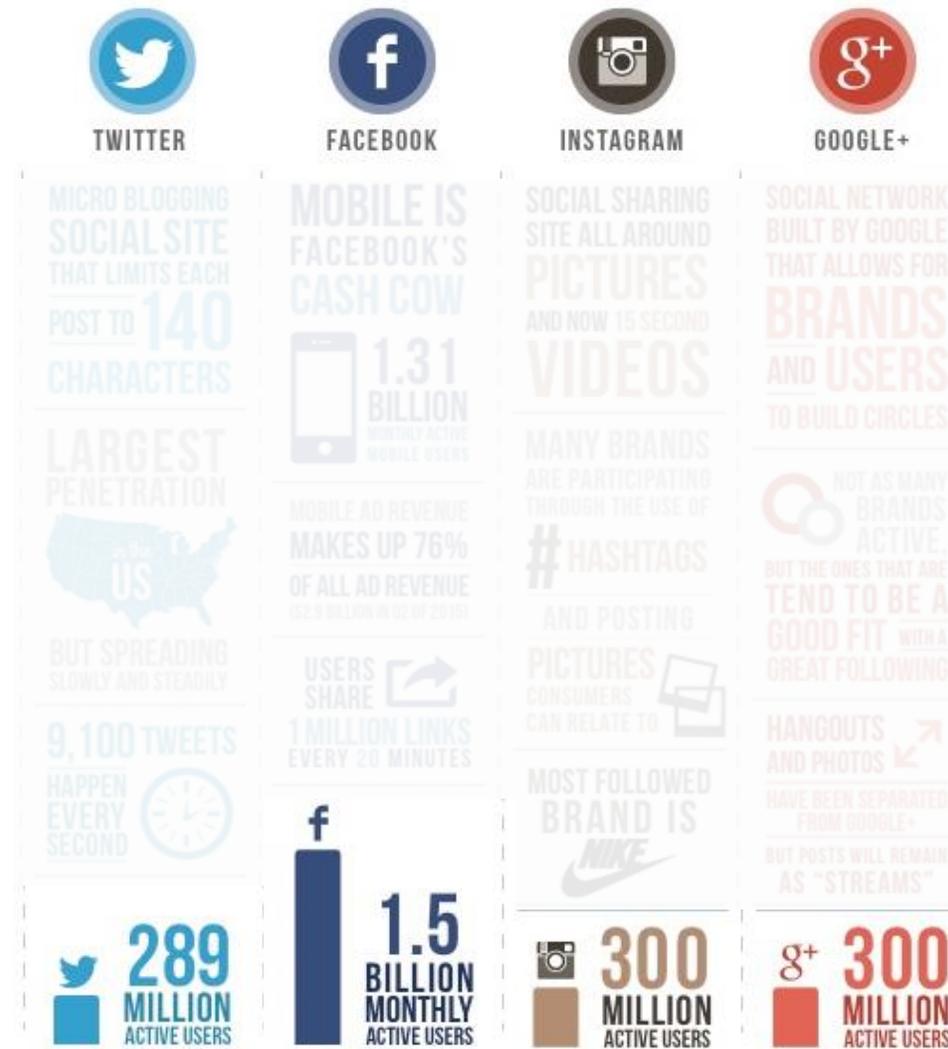
[This Photo](#) by Unknown author is licensed under [CC BY](#).

[This Photo](#) by Unknown author is licensed under [CC BY-SA](#). Statistics as of 7.8.2015. Designed by: Li

# Infographic activity

## Discuss:

Which social media site is the most popular?  
Why?



Statistics as of 7.8.2015. Designed by: Li

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5 minutes

# Infographic activity

## Reflect:

When do you have to find the 'relevant' information in a larger amount in your subject?

When do you use very large, or very small numbers in your subject?

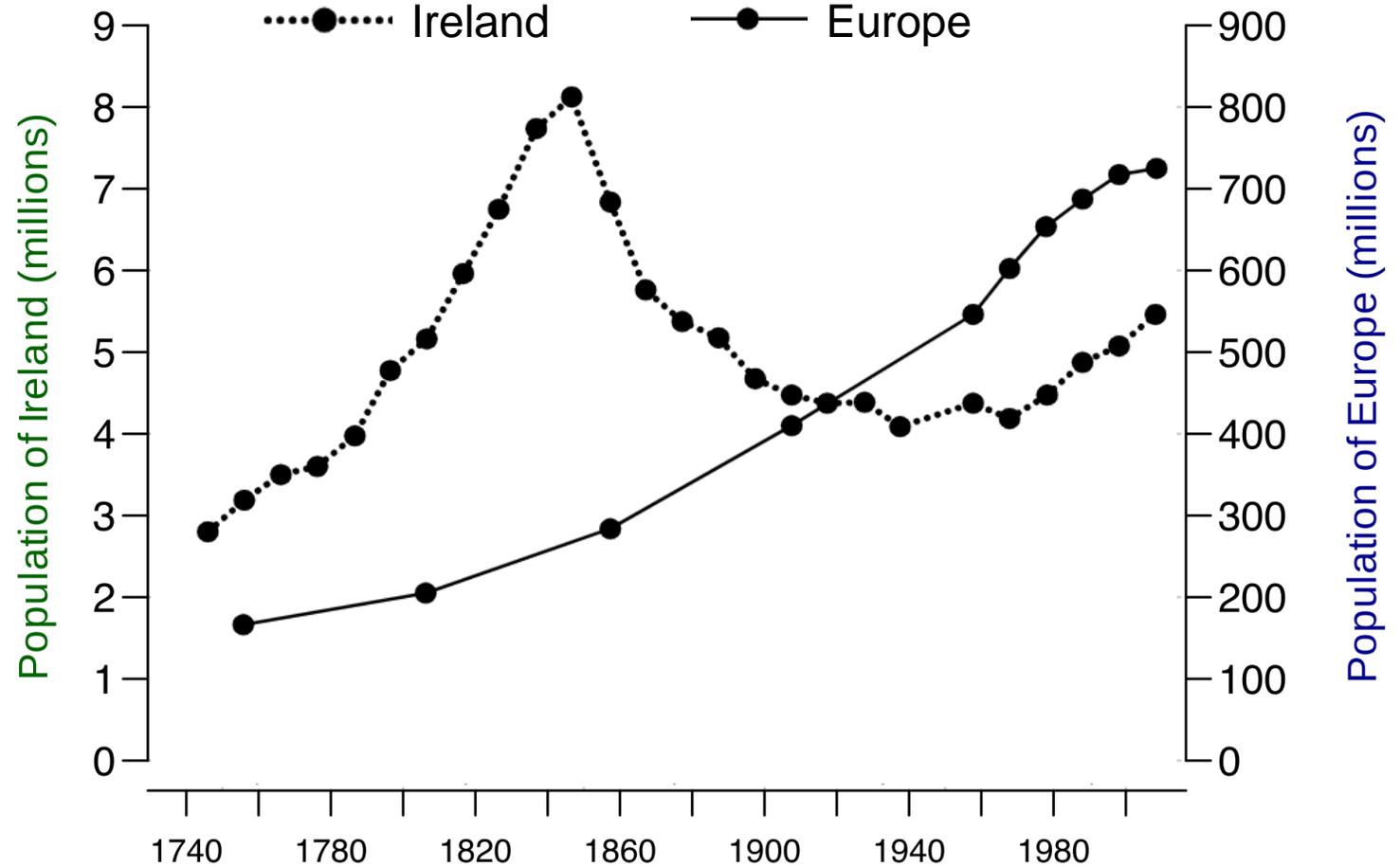


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Statistics as of 7.8.2015. Designed by: Le

# Statistics activity

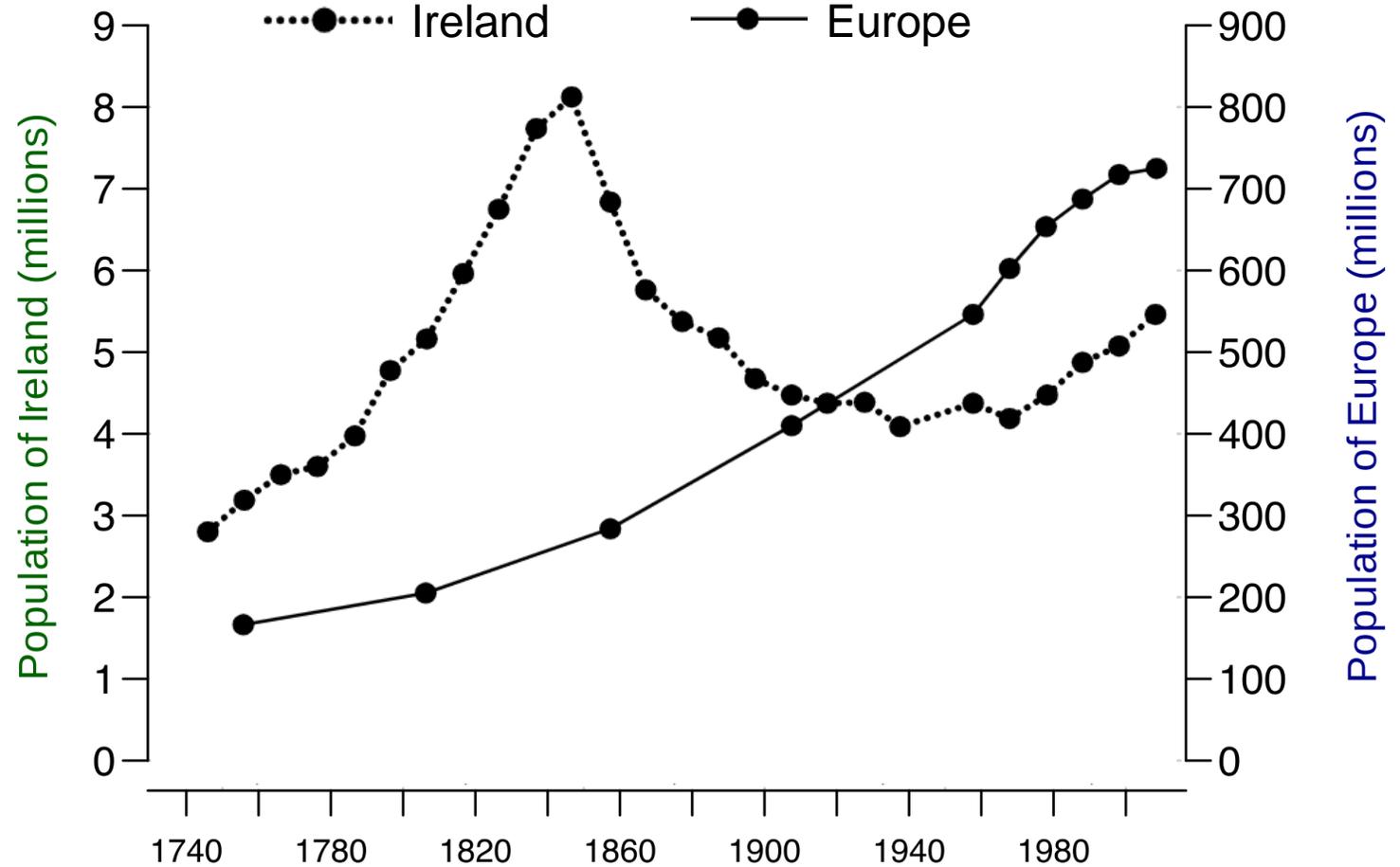
**Discuss:** What does this graph make you wonder?



5 minutes

# Statistics activity

**Reflect:** Where do you use graphs or data in your subject?



5 minutes

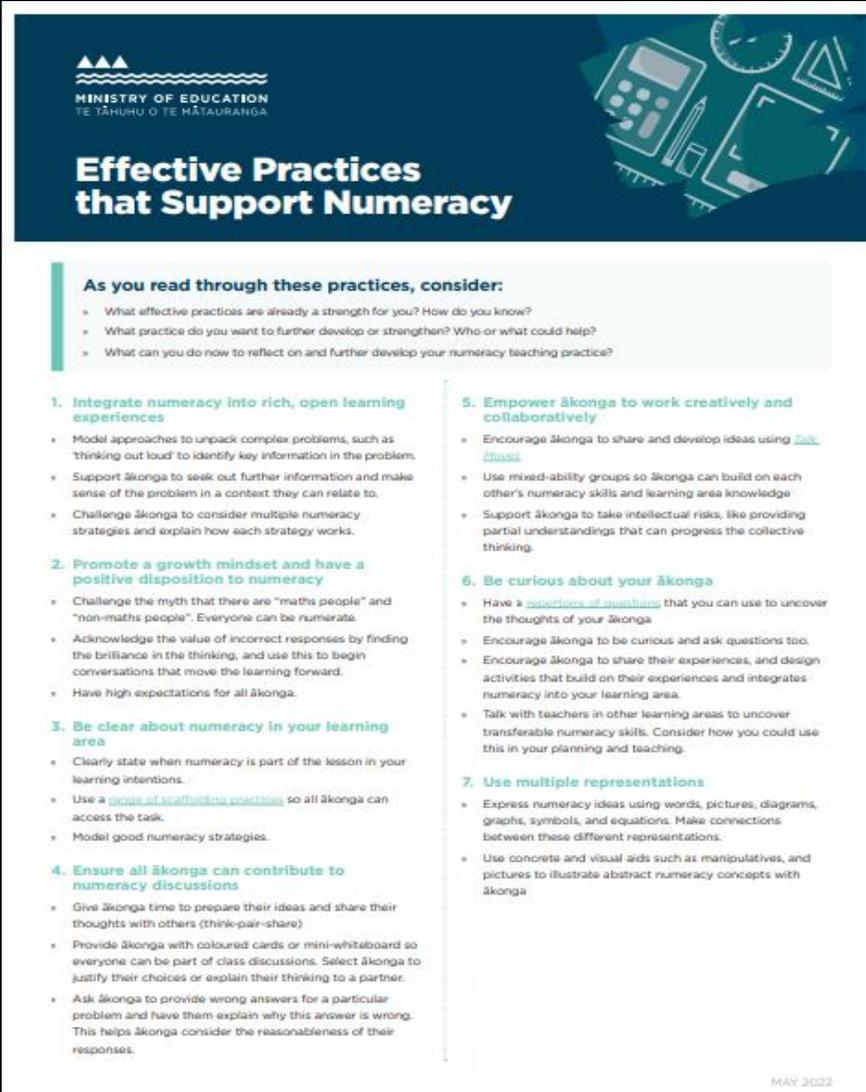


# Effective Practices that Support Numeracy

# Effective practices that support Numeracy

1. Integrate numeracy into rich, open learning experiences
2. Promote a growth mindset and have a positive disposition to numeracy
3. Be clear about numeracy in your learning area
4. Ensure all ākonga can contribute to numeracy discussions
5. Empower ākonga to work creatively and collaboratively
6. Be curious about your ākonga
7. Use multiple representations

## Effective Numeracy Practices



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### Effective Practices that Support Numeracy

**As you read through these practices, consider:**

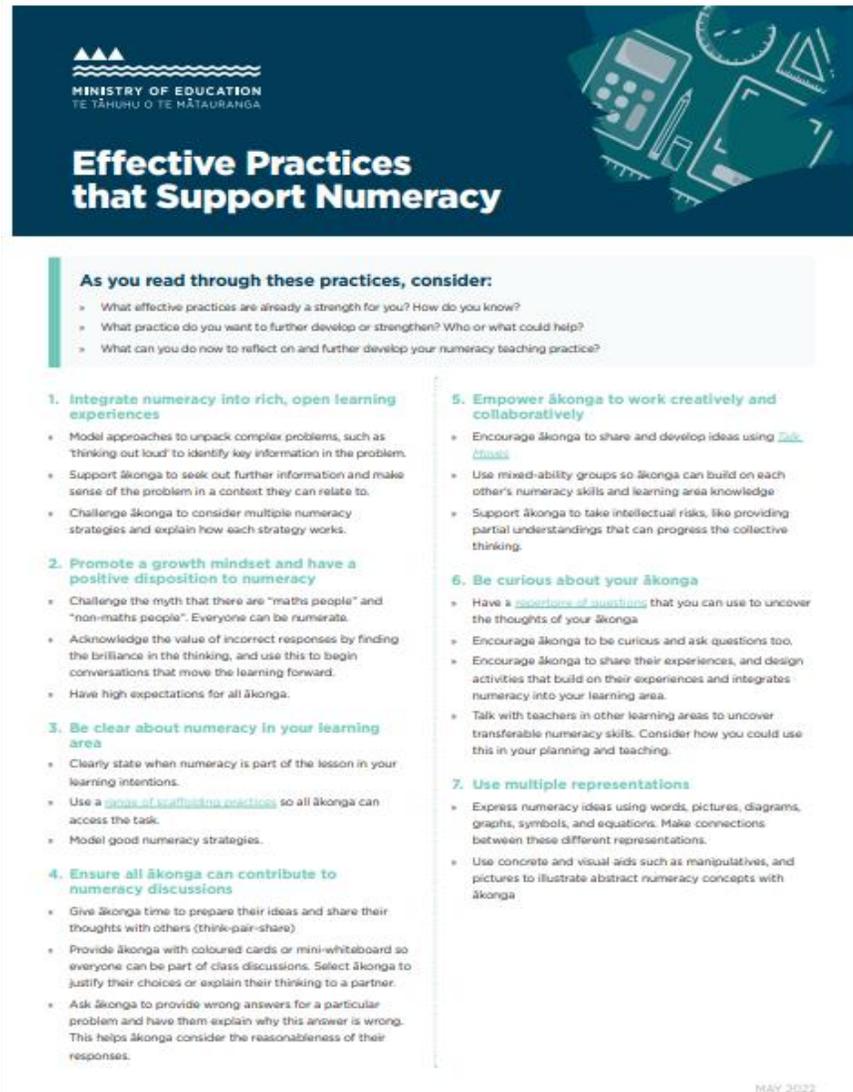
- What effective practices are already a strength for you? How do you know?
- What practice do you want to further develop or strengthen? Who or what could help?
- What can you do now to reflect on and further develop your numeracy teaching practice?

- 1. Integrate numeracy into rich, open learning experiences**
  - Model approaches to unpack complex problems, such as 'thinking out loud' to identify key information in the problem.
  - Support ākonga to seek out further information and make sense of the problem in a context they can relate to.
  - Challenge ākonga to consider multiple numeracy strategies and explain how each strategy works.
- 2. Promote a growth mindset and have a positive disposition to numeracy**
  - Challenge the myth that there are "maths people" and "non-maths people". Everyone can be numerate.
  - Acknowledge the value of incorrect responses by finding the brilliance in the thinking, and use this to begin conversations that move the learning forward.
  - Have high expectations for all ākonga.
- 3. Be clear about numeracy in your learning area**
  - Clearly state when numeracy is part of the lesson in your learning intentions.
  - Use a [range of scaffolding practices](#) so all ākonga can access the task.
  - Model good numeracy strategies.
- 4. Ensure all ākonga can contribute to numeracy discussions**
  - Give ākonga time to prepare their ideas and share their thoughts with others (think-pair-share).
  - Provide ākonga with coloured cards or mini-whiteboard so everyone can be part of class discussions. Select ākonga to justify their choices or explain their thinking to a partner.
  - Ask ākonga to provide wrong answers for a particular problem and have them explain why this answer is wrong. This helps ākonga consider the reasonableness of their responses.
- 5. Empower ākonga to work creatively and collaboratively**
  - Encourage ākonga to share and develop ideas using [Talk Tasks](#).
  - Use mixed-ability groups so ākonga can build on each other's numeracy skills and learning area knowledge.
  - Support ākonga to take intellectual risks, like providing partial understandings that can progress the collective thinking.
- 6. Be curious about your ākonga**
  - Have a [collection of questions](#) that you can use to uncover the thoughts of your ākonga.
  - Encourage ākonga to be curious and ask questions too.
  - Encourage ākonga to share their experiences, and design activities that build on their experiences and integrates numeracy into your learning area.
  - Talk with teachers in other learning areas to uncover transferable numeracy skills. Consider how you could use this in your planning and teaching.
- 7. Use multiple representations**
  - Express numeracy ideas using words, pictures, diagrams, graphs, symbols, and equations. Make connections between these different representations.
  - Use concrete and visual aids such as manipulatives, and pictures to illustrate abstract numeracy concepts with ākonga.

MAY 2022

# Effective practices that support Numeracy

1. Integrate numeracy into rich, open learning experiences
2. Promote a growth mindset and have a positive disposition to numeracy
3. Be clear about numeracy in your learning area
4. Ensure all ākonga can contribute to numeracy discussions
5. Empower ākonga to work creatively and collaboratively
6. Be curious about your ākonga
7. Use multiple representations



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## Effective Practices that Support Numeracy

**As you read through these practices, consider:**

- What effective practices are already a strength for you? How do you know?
- What practice do you want to further develop or strengthen? Who or what could help?
- What can you do now to reflect on and further develop your numeracy teaching practice?

- 1. Integrate numeracy into rich, open learning experiences**
  - Model approaches to unpack complex problems, such as thinking out loud to identify key information in the problem.
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- 2. Promote a growth mindset and have a positive disposition to numeracy**
  - Challenge the myth that there are “maths people” and “non-maths people”. Everyone can be numerate.
  - Acknowledge the value of incorrect responses by finding the brilliance in the thinking, and use this to begin conversations that move the learning forward.
  - Have high expectations for all ākonga.
- 3. Be clear about numeracy in your learning area**
  - Clearly state when numeracy is part of the lesson in your learning intentions.
  - Use a [range of scaffolding strategies](#) so all ākonga can access the task.
  - Model good numeracy strategies.
- 4. Ensure all ākonga can contribute to numeracy discussions**
  - Give ākonga time to prepare their ideas and share their thoughts with others (think-pair-share).
  - Provide ākonga with coloured cards or mini-whiteboard so everyone can be part of class discussions. Select ākonga to justify their choices or explain their thinking to a partner.
  - Ask ākonga to provide wrong answers for a particular problem and have them explain why this answer is wrong. This helps ākonga consider the reasonableness of their responses.
- 5. Empower ākonga to work creatively and collaboratively**
  - Encourage ākonga to share and develop ideas using [Talk Moves](#).
  - Use mixed-ability groups so ākonga can build on each other's numeracy skills and learning area knowledge.
  - Support ākonga to take intellectual risks, like providing partial understandings that can progress the collective thinking.
- 6. Be curious about your ākonga**
  - Have a [powerline of something](#) that you can use to uncover the thoughts of your ākonga.
  - Encourage ākonga to be curious and ask questions too.
  - Encourage ākonga to share their experiences, and design activities that build on their experiences and integrates numeracy into your learning area.
  - Talk with teachers in other learning areas to uncover transferable numeracy skills. Consider how you could use this in your planning and teaching.
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MAY 2022

***Promote a growth mindset  
and have a positive  
disposition to numeracy***

# Practice 2: Promote a growth mindset and have a positive disposition to numeracy

**Activity:** In pairs or departments.

Think of an upcoming unit of work and consider these questions:

How can you **plan** to promote a growth mindset where:

- Students are encouraged to persevere through challenges?
- Students are allowed to make mistakes and understand this is part of the process?
- Students are free to try different strategies?



# Practice 2: Promote a growth mindset and have a positive disposition to numeracy

**Activity:** In pairs or departments.

Think of an upcoming unit of work and consider these questions:

How can you **plan** to promote a positive disposition to Numeracy?:

- How can you actively plan to make sure that expectations are high for all learners?
- How can you build in supports for students so that they have several strategies to progress?



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# Rauemi | Resources to support Practice 2



Advice for Parents,  
from Professor Jo Boaler

[Advice for Parents and teachers](#)

## *Ensuring high expectations for all learners*

The statements below, about high expectations for learners in New Zealand schools, are supported by educational research (including the research referred to in this Update). The guiding questions are prompts to help schools consider what each statement implies for their particular context.

[Ensuring high expectations for all learners](#)



How Students Should be Taught Mathematics:  
Reflections from Research and Practice

[How students should be taught mathematics](#)

HIGH IMPACT TEACHING / OVERVIEW

## How to develop high expectations teaching

[How to develop High Expectations Teaching](#)



[Effective Numeracy Practices](#)

## NCEA Literacy and Numeracy Case Studies

Niue High School (Mata Ki Luga)

[Niue Case Study](#)

*Empower ākonga to work  
creatively and collaboratively*

# Empower ākonga to work creatively and collaboratively

**Activity:** In pairs or departments.

Think of an upcoming unit of work and consider these questions:

How can you **plan** to promote ākonga working together?

- Students are collaborating and communicating with each other?
- Students work in mixed ability groups to build on each other's skills and strengths?



# Empower ākonga to work creatively and collaboratively

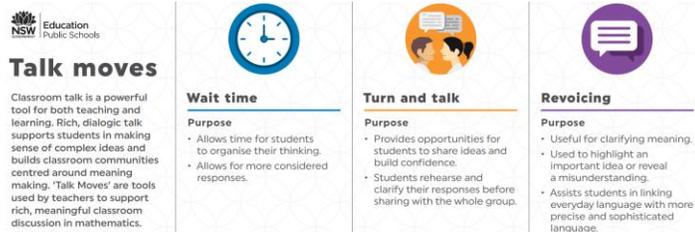
**Activity:** In pairs or departments.

Think of an upcoming unit of work and consider these questions:

How can you **plan** to promote ākonga working together?

- Are students explaining and justifying the reasonableness of their responses?
- Are students taking intellectual risks by asking questions that clarify and deepen everyone's understanding



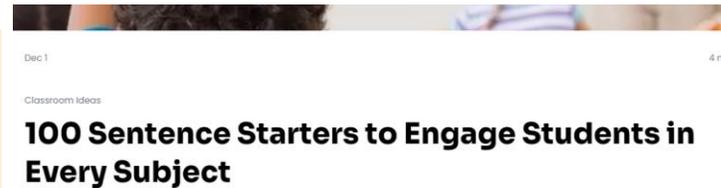


**Talk moves**

Classroom talk is a powerful tool for both teaching and learning. Rich, dialogic talk supports students in making sense of complex ideas and builds classroom communities centred around meaning making. Talk Moves are tools used by teachers to support rich, meaningful classroom discussion in mathematics.

Wait time	Turn and talk	Revoicing
<b>Purpose</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Allows time for students to organise their thinking.</li><li>Allows for more considered responses.</li></ul>	<b>Purpose</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Provides opportunities for students to share ideas and build confidence.</li><li>Students rehearse and clarify their responses before sharing with the whole group.</li></ul>	<b>Purpose</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Useful for clarifying meaning.</li><li>Used to highlight an important idea or reveal a misunderstanding.</li><li>Assists students in linking everyday language with more precise and sophisticated language.</li></ul>

## [Talk Moves](#)

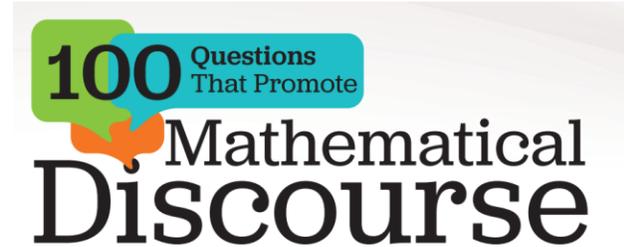


Dec 1 4 m

Classroom Ideas

### 100 Sentence Starters to Engage Students in Every Subject

## [Sentence Starters](#)



### 100 Questions That Promote Mathematical Discourse

## [Questions that promote mathematical discourse](#)

*Grouping students in mathematics... more than just mixed ability*

## [Grouping students in mixed ability groups](#)



## [The plan for remove streaming in our schools](#)

### An introduction to cooperative learning

Home > School resources > Co-operative learning > An introduction to cooperative learning

March 10, 2020

Cooperative learning involves students working together in small groups to accomplish shared goals or complete group tasks. It is widely recognised as a teaching strategy that promotes socialisation and learning among students from pre-school through to tertiary level and across different subjects and curriculum areas.

## [Cooperative Learning](#)

# *Use Multiple Representations*

# Use multiple representations

## Reflect:

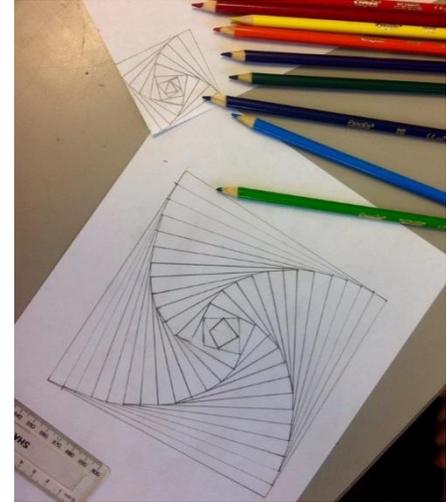
Pick an upcoming unit of work.

Numeracy can be expressed using abstract representations (diagrams, graphs, symbols, and equations) as well as concrete representations (materials, visuals, drawings, experiments)

- How can you incorporate these ideas into your planning?



7 minutes



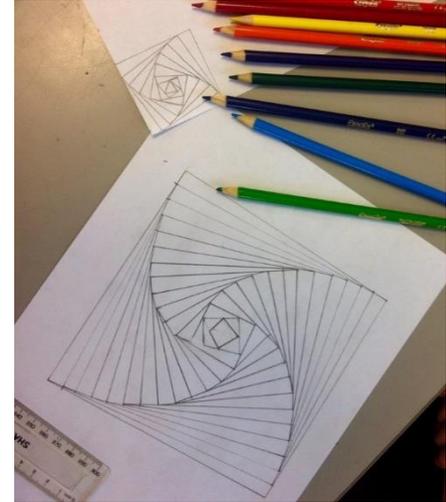
# Use multiple representations

## Reflect:

Pick an upcoming unit of work.

By using multiple representations, Numeracy can be **supported across the curriculum**, as mathematical understanding can be developed in diverse ways.

- How can you use multiple representations to support this numeracy learning in your Learning Area?



Developing Mathematical  
Understanding through

## Multiple Representations

Preety N. Tripathi

[Developing mathematical understanding through multiple representations](#)

Developing children's mathematical understanding with  
a variety of representations

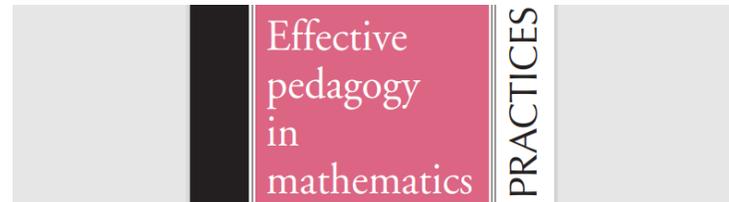
9 SEPT 2020 | 6 MIN READ

[Variety of representations](#)

Why Use Multiple Representations in Teaching  
Maths?

Allan Duncan

[Multiple representations in teaching maths](#)



[Effective pedagogies in mathematics](#)



## Multiple Representations

[Multiple representations](#)

## Conceptual Variation – Multiple Representations

[Conceptual Variation- Multiple Representations](#)

# Reflections

# Reflection on today's session

Reflect:

- Write down the key words and ideas from today's session (2 minutes)
- Select one practice (or part of a practice) to focus on
- Discuss in a pair what you will explore and trial and why?



6 minutes



# References

The material below guided the development of this resource:

- Anthony, G & Hunter, R (2013) *Expansive learning: Lessons from a teacher's learning journey* retrieved from [Expansive learning: Lessons from one teacher's learning journey \(researchgate.net\)](#)
- Averill, R & Ingram, N (2023) *Engaging and effective teaching and learning in secondary school mathematics and statistics*. Article published on the Education Hub. Source: [Engaging and effective teaching and learning in secondary school mathematics and statistics - THE EDUCATION HUB](#)
- NCEA case studies [Case Studies | NCEA \(education.govt.nz\)](#)
- Rubie-Davies, C. (2014). *Becoming a high expectation teacher: Raising the bar*. Hoboken: Routledge.



We **shape** an **education** system that delivers **equitable** and **excellent outcomes**

He mea **tārai** e mātou te **mātauranga**  
kia **rangatira** ai, kia **mana taurite** ai ōna **huanga**

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