

Maths Week Scotland

Primary Level

Welcome to Maths Week Scotland!

Maths Week Scotland is taking place 22nd – 28th September 2025

Maths Week Scotland takes place during the last week of September every year with a whole host of activities, events and resources to allow you to celebrate the joy of maths with your primary school and wider community.

The 2025 Maths Week Scotland theme is Wild Maths, exploring the maths hidden in animals, plants, weather, space, and the natural world all around us!

This pack will provide you with lots of ideas on how you can celebrate

Maths Week Scotland 2025, including activities, resources and additional support available.

We would love you to share your Maths Week celebrations with us. [Facebook](#), [Bluesky](#) and [Instagram](#) and use the hashtag #MathsWeekScot

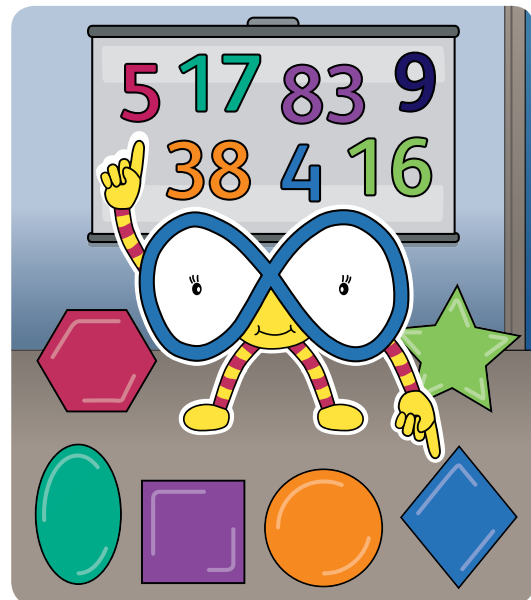
MATHS TALES CONTEST

Our Maths Writing Competition is back for 2025!

In partnership with Read Write Count with The First Minister

As part of Maths Week Scotland 2025, we are thrilled to announce that we are bringing back our Maths Tales Contest, in partnership with Read Write Count with The First Minister! This exciting story writing competition invites young authors in First and Second Level to create a tale that incorporates the following three elements:

- 1 A shape
- 2 A number
- 3 The Maths Week Scotland mascot, Finn Finity (pictured here)



We'd like the stories to be linked to this year's Wild Maths theme – how that is done is up to the author! Whether it's the setting, the inclusion

of animal characters, maths that's found in nature e.g. Fibonacci sequence/fractals/weather patterns, or something else!

Fantastic prizes await the winners in two categories, First Level and Second Level. While we provide guide templates to get you started, we encourage you to unleash your classes' creativity! Entries can be a comic strip, a short, illustrated story, or anything your learners can imagine, as long as it includes the three required elements.

For information about our competition for Early Level learners please see the ELC pack.

We also encourage entries in BSL and Gaelic please see our website for more information.

Competition Details:

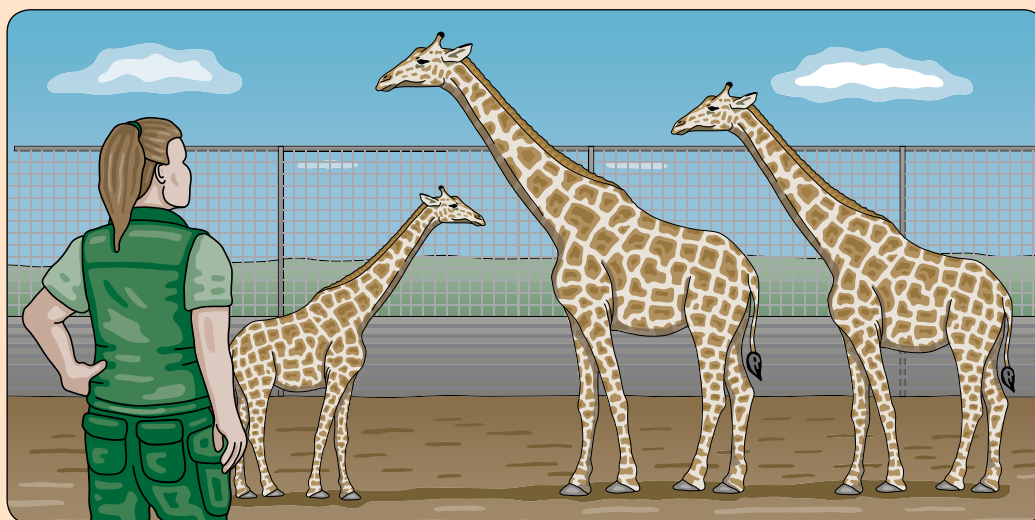
Opening Date: 1st September 2025

Closing Date: 3rd October 2025

Winners Announced: During Book Week Scotland (17th–23rd Nov)

More information on how to enter and guide templates can be found [here](#).

Finn Finity and the Wild Maths Zoo Adventure



Created in collaboration with Edinburgh Zoo, Finn Finity and the Wild Maths Zoo Adventure is an interactive story designed to enjoy with your learners.

Join Finn Finity as he explores Edinburgh Zoo, helping zookeepers solve problems using fun, maths-based puzzles and activities along the way.

The story is split into five chapters. After reading each chapter, learners

can work together to solve a themed puzzle. The full story is available to download as a complete bundle, so you can choose to enjoy it over a week or complete it all in one go.

Finish the story to be in with a chance of winning some brand-new Finn Finity merchandise in our prize draw!

Click [here](#) to find out more.

RSPB Bird Tally

Get ready to explore the outdoors and put your learners' observation skills to the test with the RPSB's Big Schools' Birdwatch resources!

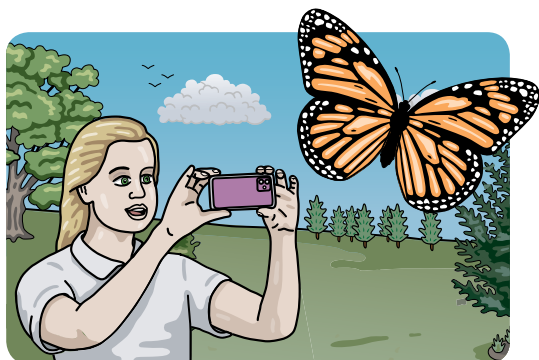
These engaging tally sheets and spotter guides are perfect for taking learning outside of the classroom as pupils count and identify common UK birds.

Whether you're in a playground, garden, or park, these simple tools support numeracy, data handling, and nature connection in a fun and accessible way.

Download and print the tally charts, use colourful ID guides to recognise your feathered visitors and turn your birdwatch into a mini maths investigation! Click [here](#).

Maths Outdoors

We love taking maths outdoors, and there are lots of fun ways to cover a range of different maths topics whilst being active in nature.



30 Days Wild encourages people to spend more time outdoors and engage with nature, whilst incorporating some maths along the way. Don't worry, there are plenty of suggestions for those who live in very urban settings!

Why not create your own Maths Week Scotland 2025 calendar, with a fun maths in nature activity for each day of Maths Week?

Outdoor Maths Games is an excellent resource featuring 25 engaging outdoor maths activities for your school. It also includes a comprehensive outdoor maths

planning framework, offering suggestions to help you plan your outdoor maths lessons.

Science Skills Academy Outdoor Activity Cards consists of 17 activities that can be carried out in a range of outdoor spaces with minimal equipment. Find the height of trees, practice data collection and enjoy ladder games with these fun and accessible activity cards.

Be a... Wildlife Reporter

Take a look at these [videos](#) of Scotland's wildlife habitats filmed by the Scottish Wildlife Trust or these [animal fact files](#) from the National Library of Scotland.

Why not ask learners to imagine they are a wildlife reporter? Ask them to watch one video or read through a fact file and then create their own wildlife report. What maths language could they include? What statistics and data are relevant to their report?

Encourage learners to share their report with a friend to see what they have included. You might like to video record these and create your own wildlife show.

Sticky Situation

Challenge children individually or in teams to find four sticks which, when placed together, are exactly one metre in length.

Children can only measure the sticks once they have placed them together.

The winning child or group are those with the closest to one metre.

Give it a go through the week with different objects or lengths and see if estimation skills improve!

Sticks and Angles

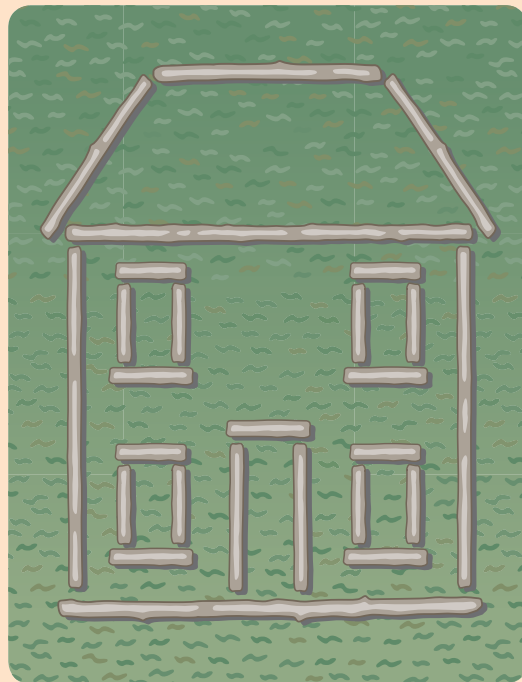
Collect a range of sticks of different lengths.

Challenge learners to be the first person to make a picture using the sticks that includes all of the following.

- a right angle
- an acute angle
- a straight angle
- an obtuse angle
- a reflex angle.

The first person to create a picture with all of these is the winner!

A description of the different types of angles can be found [here](#).



Nature Diagram

Go on a nature walk round the local area collecting different objects. Classify the objects according to their properties e.g. round, smooth, rough, green, natural, man-made.

Create a Carroll diagram using chalk on the playground.

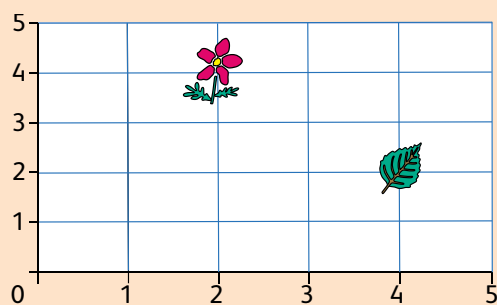
Using the same items try out different classifications and recreate the Carroll diagram. Discuss how the diagrams have changed.

Wild Walk Grid

Start by asking learners to draw or create a co-ordinate grid.

Discuss the size and scale of their co-ordinate grid. Encourage them to make their axes using chalk, string or sticks and to label their axes.

Go on a nature walk to collect natural materials such as leaves, sticks and rocks. The learners will



use these materials as items to be placed on their co-ordinate grid, and will need to find items that will fit onto their grid.

Ask them to place items collected on their grid and make a list of all co-ordinate points, for example leaf (4,2), flower (2,4).

In pairs or groups learners can take it in turns to say a co-ordinate and the others in the group find the item and pick it up.

Extension

The children could direct each other from a starting point on the grid to the other objects.

Bringing Maths to Life in your Classroom

There are a range of roles in the wild that need maths, from forestry and environmental careers to aquaculture, zookeeping and more. Why not invite some industry speakers to share the importance of Maths in their jobs? STEM Ambassadors are a great place to start exploring the Maths needed in different roles and careers. STEM Ambassadors are people working in STEM industries or with an interest

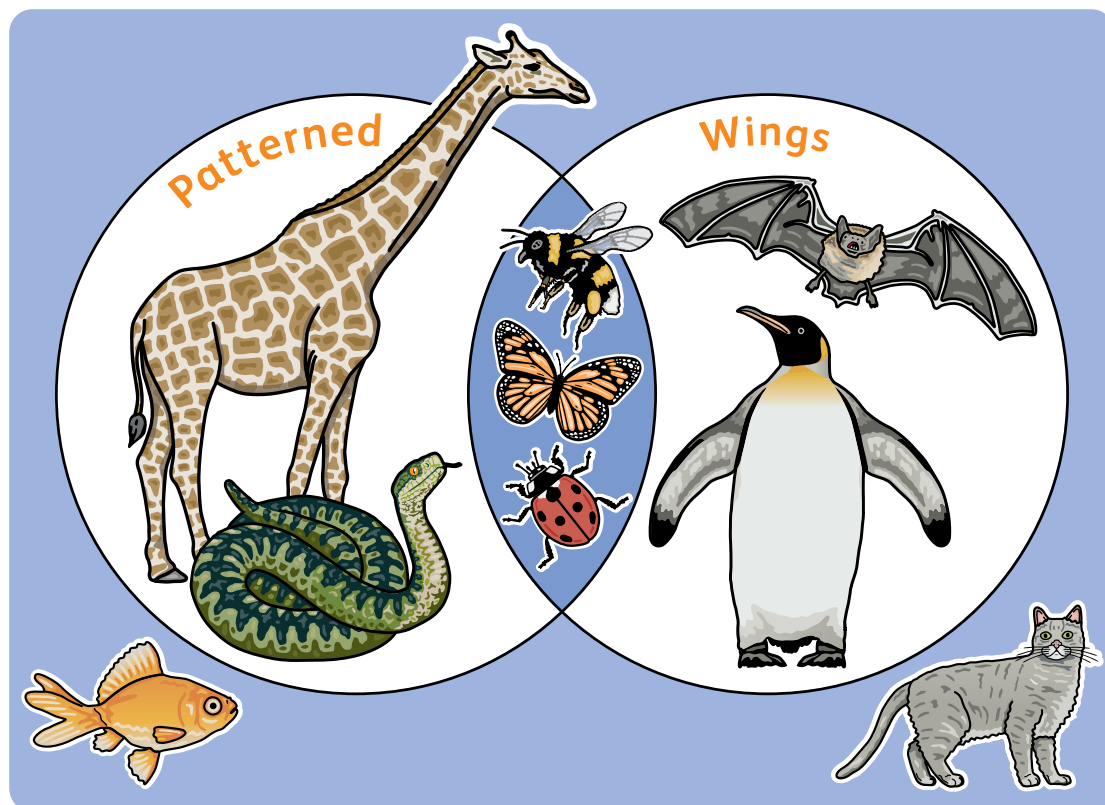
in STEM who volunteer to inspire the next generation and come into classrooms to give career talks, run workshops or help you plan sessions! Visit the [STEM Ambassador website](#) to find out more!

There are a whole host of amazing resources available on the [Maths Week Scotland website](#). With maths in history, art and space, there is something to interest every young learner!

Classifying Creatures

Provide a selection of photographs of different animals and birds. Ask the learners to sort these and observe how they categorise them. Wings and no wings? Horns, tusks and antlers? By their colour, pattern or habitat? Can they justify the way they have sorted the animals? Encourage the learners to create their own Venn diagrams

based on how they have sorted and classified their animals. To extend this activity you could give learners some additional photographs to add to their Venn diagrams. Do their categorisations still work? You could add further challenge by asking them to sort and classify in a different way or by add a third intersecting circle.



Wild About Growing: Maths in the Garden

Planting and gardening can be a great way to put maths skills into a real-life and relevant context. From budgeting how much you have to spend, measuring out the planting area, keeping track of how well things grow to thinking about how

you can turn your plants into profit. This [month by month guide to food growing](#) from RHS Gardening gives a helpful starting guide of what to grow in the Autumn Term. You might like to get the whole community involved. Why not make and sell soup bags or set up a community gardening space?

Maths Week Scotland Bingo

Looking for a set of fun challenges for your class that encourages them to get involved in MWS? Try our Maths Week Scotland Bingo!

This activity is perfect for classrooms, after-school clubs or as a home learning option.

Each square on the bingo card contains a quick maths-themed challenge – from spotting shapes in the environment to solving logic puzzles.

Complete a row, column, or the whole card to become a Maths Week Champion! Click [here](#) to download the Maths Week Scotland Bingo card.

MATHS WEEK SCOTLAND COMPETITIONS

Maths Inside

Get your cameras ready to get out and about and find the Maths Inside your daily life. The Maths Inside photography competition has categories for early years up to adult so teachers and parents can enter too! Enter at the Maths Inside website [Maths Inside website](#)

Maths Week Scotland Daily Challenges

Try out Daily Challenges created by the Scottish Mathematical Council. Head to the [Maths Week Scotland website](#) to take part.

Sumdog

Take part in the Maths Week Scotland Sumdog competition. [Register your school](#) and see if you can top the leader board to win fantastic prizes.

Maths Wi Nae Borders

Maths Wi Nae Borders, inspired by the annual Mathématiques sans Frontières contest, is a mini competition for any class to compete together. Find details and enter [here](#).

We hope these suggestions help to inspire your Maths Week Scotland planning. If you are looking for further ideas, make sure to visit our [website](#).



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