

Mrs Odd and Mr Even

Learning objectives

(Y1) Count on in twos from 0, then 1, and begin to recognise odd or even numbers to about 20 as 'every other number'.

(Y1) Describe and extend number sequences.

Mental starter

See the starter 13 on page 14.

You will need

Photocopiable page 41 (a laminated copy per pair of children); a set of 1-20 number cards per pair of children.

Whole class work

- Pick two children to be Mrs Odd and Mr Even. Give Mrs Odd and Mr Even the appropriate bags to hold. Describe how the two characters keep special numbers inside their bags - Mr Even calls his even numbers and Mrs Odd calls hers odd numbers.
- Introduce Mr Even as a kind man who always shares fairly. Take a number from Mr Even's bag. Tell the children that for example, 4 is an even number because it can be split equally. Demonstrate this visually by giving Mr Even 4 cubes and asking him to share them fairly with you. Repeat this with the rest of his numbers.
- Now turn to Mrs Odd. Say that Mrs Odd is greedy and likes odd numbers because they cannot be split fairly. Pick a number from the bag and show what happens when you try to share an odd number of cubes between two people. There is always one left over, which Mrs Odd likes to keep for herself! Repeat for the other numbers in the bag.

Group work

- Repeat the whole class activity with the group of less able learners.
- Pick two children to be Mrs Odd and Mr Even. Ask the children in the group to describe what they know about the two different characters.

Paired work

- Give each pair of children a laminated copy of 'Mrs Odd and Mr Even', 20 cubes and a set of 1-20 number cards placed face down.
- Instruct the children to turn over the number cards one at a time and use the cubes to work out whether the number is odd or even. Suggest that they do this by counting out the number of cubes and trying to split them equally between themselves and their partner.
- Ask them to write the even numbers in Mr Even's bag and the odd numbers in Mrs Odd's bag. Check the children's answers.

Plenary

- Call out numbers from the 0 to 20 number range and ask different children from the less able group to say whether the numbers are odd or even. Record this by writing an 'O' or 'E' above each number on the number track.
- Ask the children to describe the alternate pattern of odd and even numbers.

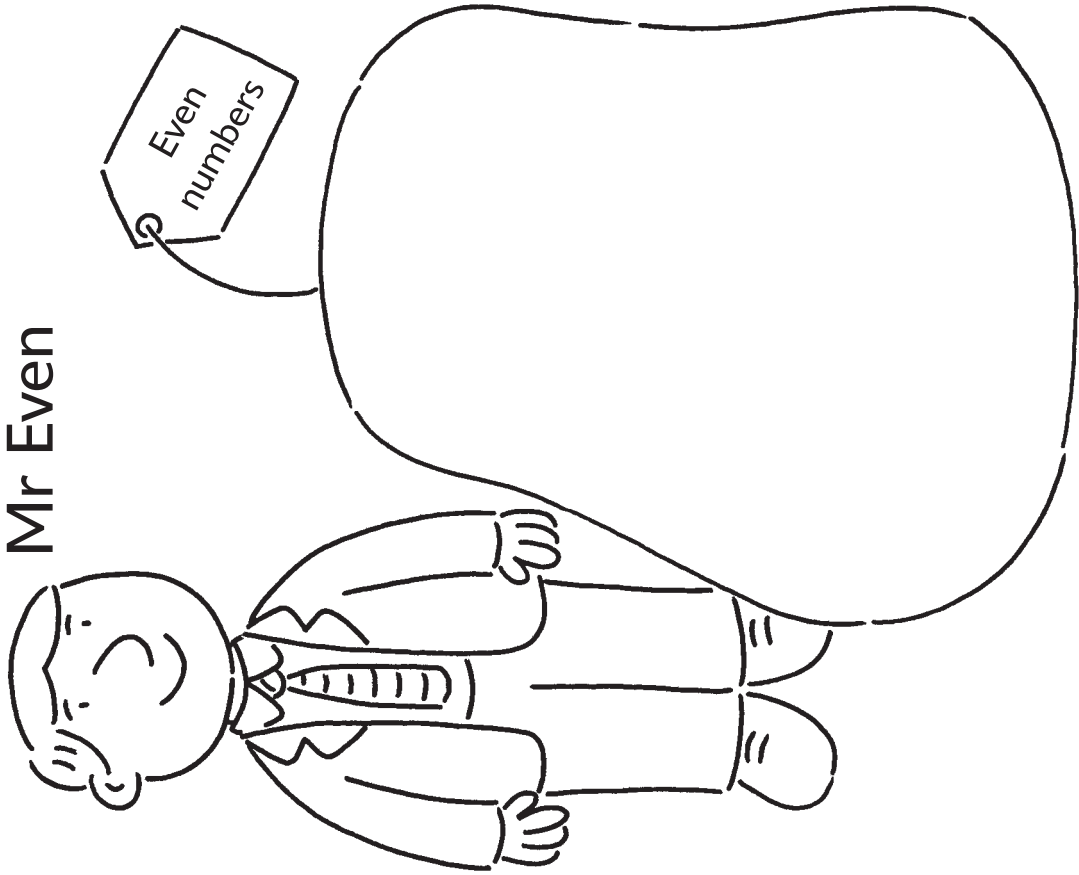
Potential difficulties	Further support
Children have difficulty reading numbers 11 to 19.	Have number lines available so that children can count on from 1 to identify an unknown number.

Moving On

- Ask children to investigate the pattern of odd and even numbers from 20 to 30.
- Hold up a number. Challenge the children to shout out *Odd* or *Even*.

Mrs Odd and Mr Even

Mr Even



Mrs Odd

