Autumn Block 1

Place value

Small steps

Step 1	Numbers to 1,000,000
Step 2	Numbers to 10,000,000
Step 3	Read and write numbers to 10,000,000
Step 4	Powers of 10
Step 5	Number line to 10,000,000
Step 6	Compare and order any integers
Step 7	Round any integer
Step 8	Negative numbers

Numbers to 1,000,000

Notes and guidance

In preparation for the next step (Numbers to 10,000,000), children recap their Year 5 learning by exploring numbers up to 1,000,000

Understanding that place value columns follow consistent patterns – ones, tens, hundreds, then (one) thousands, ten thousands, hundred thousands, before reaching millions – is key. Place value charts, Gattegno charts and place value counters can be used to support understanding of the relationships between columns and the construction of numbers.

Children also revise partitioning, exploring both standard and non-standard ways of composing numbers.

Writing numbers in words follows in Step 3

Things to look out for

- Children may find it difficult to conceptualise such large numbers, as they cannot easily be represented concretely and lie outside their experience.
- Children may think that place value columns go in the order ones, tens, hundreds, thousands, millions.
- Children may find numbers with several placeholders (for example, 500,020) difficult.

Key questions

- Where do the commas go when you write one million in figures?
- If 1,000,000 is the whole, what could the parts be?
- How else can you partition the number?
- What is the value of each digit in the number?
- Which columns will change if you add/subtract 10, 100, 1,000, ... to/from the number?
- When do you use placeholders in numbers?

Possible sentence stems

- The value of the _____ in _____ is _____
- The column before/after the _____ column is the _____ column.

National Curriculum links

- Read, write, order and compare numbers up to 10,000,000 and determine the value of each digit
- Solve number and practical problems that involve the above

Numbers to 10,000,000

Notes and guidance

Children build on the previous step to explore numbers up to 10,000,000. They need to understand that the million can be considered a unit in the same way as the thousand. Numbers do not all have to be over 1,000,000 in this step; children should continue to experience smaller numbers alongside 7-digit numbers. The placement of commas and other separators should be discussed.

Familiar manipulatives and models, such as place value charts and counters, Gattegno charts and part-whole models, are used to represent numbers. Children partition the numbers in both standard and non-standard ways.

Things to look out for

- Children may struggle with where to position the commas in large numbers.
- Children may not recognise large numbers written with no commas.
- Unless they are confident with previous learning, children may think that place value columns go in the order ones, tens, hundreds, thousands, millions.
- Children may find numbers with several placeholders (for example, 1,006,020) difficult.

Key questions

- Where do the commas go when writing 7-digit numbers? How does this connect to place value charts?
- How does the place value chart help you to represent large numbers?
- What is the value of each digit in the number?
- Are 7-digit numbers always greater than 1,000,000?
- When do you use placeholders in numbers?
- What is the same and what is different about counting in 1,000s and counting in 1,000,000s?

Possible sentence stems

- The value of the _____ in _____ is _____
- The column before/after the _____ column is the _____ column.

National Curriculum links

- Read, write, order and compare numbers up to 10,000,000 and determine the value of each digit
- Solve number and practical problems that involve the above

Read and write numbers to 10,000,000

Notes and guidance

Children should now be secure with the place value of numbers to 10,000,000. This small step develops their skill at reading and writing large numbers in words.

The focus of this step is learning the structure of how numbers are said and written in words, for example 4,378 as "four thousand, three hundred and seventy-eight" rather than just "four-three-seven-eight". Using a comma as a separator helps children to read and write large numbers by tackling them in sections. This can be supported visually/concretely with place value charts, part-whole models or Gattegno charts.

Children should also be able to write numbers such as "half a million" in both words and numerals.

Things to look out for

- Children who find the "teen" numbers difficult may have problems with numbers such as 5,317,418
- Children may find reading and writing numbers with placeholders (for example, 5,208,001) difficult.

Key questions

- When a number is written with two commas, what does that tell you about the size of the number?
- What do the numbers before this comma represent?
- How do you write "one million" in words and numerals?
- How do you write "half a million" in words and numerals?
- When do we use "and" when reading or writing a number?

Possible sentence stems

- The digit before the first/second comma is _____
  This part of the number is said/written as _____
- The digit after the first/second comma is _____
  This part of the number is said/written as _____
- The whole of the number is said/written as _____

National Curriculum links

- Read, write, order and compare numbers up to 10,000,000 and determine the value of each digit
- Solve number and practical problems that involve the above

Powers of 10

Notes and guidance

Children should be confident with multiplying and dividing by 10, 100 and 1,000 from their learning in Year 5. In this small step, they use their place value knowledge to identify integers that are 10, 100, 1,000 times the size, or one-tenth, one-hundredth, one-thousandth the size of other integers. These relationships with decimal numbers are covered next term.

Children need to be aware that a value increases or decreases by a power of 10 between adjacent columns on a place value chart. They also need to realise that multiplying or dividing by 10 twice has the same effect as multiplying or dividing by 100 and that multiplying or dividing by 10 three times has the same effect as multiplying or dividing by 1,000

Place value charts and Gattegno charts are useful for modelling the effects of repeated multiplication and division by powers of 10

Things to look out for

- Children may think that the overall effect of, for example, × 10 followed by × 10 is × 20
- The fact that numbers increase and decrease by a factor of 10 horizontally on a place value chart, but vertically on a Gattegno chart, may be confusing for children.

Key questions

- How can you tell if a number is a power of 10?
- Is this number a multiple of a power of 10? How can you tell?
- If you move a digit one/two places to the left in a place value chart, how many times greater is the value of the digit?
- How can you use a Gattegno chart to find a number 10 times/one-tenth the size of a given number?

Possible sentence stems

- _____ is 10 times the size of _____, so _____ is one-tenth the size of _____
- _____ is 100 times the size of _____, so _____ is one-hundredth the size of _____
- Multiplying/dividing by 10 twice/three times is the same as multiplying/dividing by _____

National Curriculum links

- Read, write, order and compare numbers up to 10,000,000 and determine the value of each digit
- Solve number and practical problems that involve the above

Powers of 10

Key learning

- What number is shown in the place value chart?

HTh	TTh	Th	H	T	O
		●● ●● ●	●● ●● ●● ●●	●●	●● ●● ●●

Multiply the number by 10 and show the answer in a place value chart.

What is the same and what is different?

Multiply the number by 100 and show the answer in a place value chart.

What is the same and what is different?

- Complete the statements.

_____ cm is the same length as 5,600 m.

_____ cm is the same length as 5,600 mm.

_____ m is the same length as 56,000 cm.

_____ m is the same length as 56,000 mm.

- What number is shown on the Gattegno chart?

1,000,000	2,000,000	3,000,000	4,000,000	5,000,000	6,000,000	7,000,000	8,000,000	9,000,000
100,000	200,000	300,000	400,000	500,000	600,000	700,000	800,000	900,000
10,000	20,000	30,000	40,000	50,000	60,000	70,000	80,000	90,000
1,000	2,000	3,000	4,000	5,000	6,000	7,000	8,000	9,000
100	200	300	400	500	600	700	800	900
10	20	30	40	50	60	70	80	90
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9

Use the chart to make the number one hundred times the size of the number shown.

Use the chart to make the number one-hundredth the size of the number shown.

- Huan thinks that the number a thousand times the size of 2,500 is two and a half million.

Do you agree with Huan? Explain your answer.

- Which calculations have the same answers?

460 × 10	46,000 ÷ 1,000	46 × 10 × 10
46 × 100 × 100	460 × 10 ÷ 100	4,600 ÷ 10 × 1,000

Compare and order any integers

Notes and guidance

In Year 5, children learned how to compare and order integers up to 1,000,000. This small step extends their learning to integers up to 10,000,000

Children compare numbers with the same number of digits, and with different numbers of digits, using their knowledge of place value columns. They present numbers in a variety of forms and use these different representations to aid their understanding when comparing and ordering.

Encourage the use of inequality symbols and precise mathematical language such as “greater than” and “less than”.

Things to look out for

- Children may just look at the size of the leading digits and not consider the place value of the digits within the numbers.
- Children may need to be reminded of the meanings of the words “ascending” and “descending”.
- Children may need to be reminded about inequality symbols and their meanings.

Key questions

- What is the value of each digit in the number?
- Which digit in each number has the greatest value? What is the value of these digits?
- When comparing two numbers with the same number of digits, what do you look at first?
- What is the difference between ascending and descending order?
- What is different about comparing numbers with the same number of digits and comparing numbers with different numbers of digits?

Possible sentence stems

- The value of the first digit in the number _____ is _____
- _____ is less than/greater than _____

National Curriculum links

- Read, write, order and compare numbers up to 10,000,000 and determine the value of each digit
- Solve number and practical problems that involve the above

Round any integer

Notes and guidance

In Year 5, children learned to round any number up to 1,000,000 to any power of 10 up to 100,000. This small step reviews and builds on this concept so that children also learn to round to the nearest million.

Children need to be confident with identifying the previous and next multiples of the appropriate power of 10 of the number, and finding the midpoints of those multiples. Number lines are useful as support here, as children can identify which multiple the number is closer to.

Children may need reminding that when a number is exactly halfway between two successive multiples the convention is to round to the greater multiple.

Things to look out for

- Children may be confused by the language "round down"/"round up" and round 428,513 to 328,513 (or 300,000) to the nearest 100,000
- Children may look at the digit of the rounding rather than the next digit, for example, looking at the thousands column rather than the hundreds when rounding to the nearest thousand.

Key questions

- Which multiples of 1,000,000 does the number lie between?
- How can you represent the rounding of this number on a number line?
- Which division on the number line is the number closer to?
- What is the number rounded to the nearest million?
- What is the most appropriate way of rounding this number?
- Which place value column should you look at to round the number to the nearest ten/hundred/thousand/ten thousand/ hundred thousand/million?

Possible sentence stems

- The previous multiple of _____ is _____
- The next multiple of _____ is _____
- _____ rounded to the nearest _____ is _____

National Curriculum links

- Round any whole number to a required degree of accuracy
- Solve number and practical problems that involve the above

Negative numbers

Notes and guidance

Children encountered negative numbers in Year 5. The focus of this small step is using negative numbers in real-life contexts while reinforcing children's understanding of the number line extending beyond zero.

Both horizontal and vertical number lines should be used, with the vertical line linking to reading temperatures on a thermometer. As well as adding and subtracting from positive and negative numbers, children learn to find the difference between numbers, including calculating intervals across zero. At this stage, children do not need to subtract negative numbers, so there is no need to cover calculations of the form 7 – –5

A recap of the Year 5 steps relating to this topic may be useful.

Things to look out for

- When calculating intervals, children may count the divisions rather than the number of intervals.
- Children may have heard "rules" such as "two minuses make a plus" and mistakenly think that, for example, –3 – 2 = +5
- Because 5 is greater than 3, children may think that –5 is greater than –3

Key questions

- What is the same and what is different about the numbers 2 and –2 (negative two)?
- How far is –5 from zero? How far is –5 from 1?
- Which is the greater temperature, –1 degrees or –2 degrees?
- How do you find the difference between two negative numbers?
- How do you find the difference between a positive number and a negative number?
- What is the same and what is different about counting forwards/backwards along a number line beyond zero?

Possible sentence stems

- To find the number _____ greater/less than _____, I count _____ on the number line.
- _____ is _____ away from zero.

National Curriculum links

- Use negative numbers in context, and calculate intervals across zero
- Solve number and practical problems that involve the above