

Small steps Blocks 1–24

**Nursery**

## Small steps

Step 1

Collect objects to compare amounts

Step 2

Make simple comparisons of amounts

Step 3

Look for collections of large and small amounts

Step 4

Compare and talk about large and small amounts

Step 5

Make large and small collections

Step 6

Make collections the same

## Small steps

Step 1

Explore and play with shapes

Step 2

Show interest in simple differences between shapes

Step 3

Put shapes and blocks into position

Step 4

Select shapes for a reason

Step 5

Begin to explore and describe natural shapes and objects

Step 6

Find and collect objects for a purpose

## Small steps

Step 1

Listen to repeats in songs and stories

Step 2

Start to join in songs with repeats

Step 3

Start to join in with repeats from stories

Step 4

Clap along to songs

Step 5

Make line patterns with own sequences

Step 6

Choose blocks to build roads and towers

## Small steps

Step 1

Hear some number names

Step 2

Join in saying some number names

Step 3

Model saying number names in order

Step 4

Practise saying number names in order

Step 5

Join in stable order counting forwards

Step 6

Join in stable order counting backwards

## Small steps

Step 1

Model saying 1, 2 and 3 in play

Step 2

Copy the sequence of 1, 2 and 3

Step 3

Copy fingers to represent 1, 2 and 3

Step 4

Begin to count actions

Step 5

Say number names in order

Step 6

Begin to recognise that anything can be counted

## Small steps

Step 1

Notice images in books

Step 2

Respond to “I see 1, 2, 3”

Step 3

Recognise “I see 1, 2, 3”

Step 4

Copy “I see 1, 2, 3”

Step 5

Point to 1, 2, 3

Step 6

Recognise 1, 2, 3 in well-known tales

## Small steps

Step 1

Join in with repeated actions in songs

Step 2

Join in with repeats in songs and stories

Step 3

Sing some refrains independently

Step 4

Have a sense of daily routines

Step 5

Say what happens next

Step 6

Make arrangements in art

## Small steps

Step 1

Respond to simple language of position

Step 2

Arrange blocks in a chosen position

Step 3

Select shapes for a space

Step 4

Recognise when 2 objects are the same shape

Step 5

Explore and describe shapes and objects

Step 6

Sort shapes and objects into simple categories

## Small steps

Step 1

Copy fingers to show 1

Step 2

Copy fingers to show 2

Step 3

Copy fingers to show 3

Step 4

Show 1 finger when seeing 1 item in stories

Step 5

Show 2 or 3 fingers when seeing 2 or 3 in stories

Step 6

Show 1, 2, 3 on fingers when asked

## Small steps

Step 1

Make actions when saying counting words

Step 2

Move fingers when saying counting words

Step 3

Count out up to 3 objects from rhymes

Step 4

Notice number symbols as labels

Step 5

Label amounts as 1 and not 1

Step 6

Label amounts as 1, 2 or 3

## Small steps

Step 1

Explore shape resources

Step 2

Explore more complex inset jigsaws

Step 3

Talk about simple positions

Step 4

Move into simple positions

Step 5

Move through positions

Step 6

Follow simple small-world routes

## Small steps

Step 1

Explain simple pattern arrangements

Step 2

Make roads and bridges with intent

Step 3

Choose blocks to copy simple creations

Step 4

Make simple line patterns with objects

Step 5

Make simple pattern arrangements

Step 6

Show an interest in patterns and shapes

## Small steps

Step 1

Choose a group to count

Step 2

Take out 2 from a group

Step 3

Take out 3 from a group

Step 4

Give others 2 items

Step 5

Give others 3 items

Step 6

Count 3 objects with one-to-one correspondence

## Small steps

Step 1

Match simple shapes

Step 2

Push some shapes and blocks together

Step 3

Make simple arrangements

Step 4

Talk about arrangements

Step 5

Follow simple routes outside

Step 6

Follow toys around a simple route

## Small steps

Step 1

Become familiar with dot patterns

Step 2

Say when there is 1 dot

Step 3

Say when there are 2 dots

Step 4

Recognise 1 and 2 in different arrangements

Step 5

Say when there are 3 dots

Step 6

Recognise 1, 2 and 3 in different arrangements

## Small steps

Step 1

Notice when two collections are the same

Step 2

Make collections of small objects the same

Step 3

Make collections of large objects the same

Step 4

Recognise two collections are the same using large and small objects

Step 5

Make collections the same using large and small objects

Step 6

Sort and talk about their own collections

## Small steps

Step 1

Join in fully with sequences and songs

Step 2

Sing rhymes independently

Step 3

Lead sequences and songs

Step 4

Read on in familiar repeating stories

Step 5

Copy art-based simple patterns

Step 6

Explore own line and repeating patterns in art

## Small steps

Step 1

Complete shape-match puzzles

Step 2

Complete simple jigsaws

Step 3

Match objects to pictures

Step 4

Match objects to shadows

Step 5

Explore objects and small world from different positions

Step 6

Make simple routes in small world with lines and curves

## Small steps

Step 1

Sing their own songs independently

Step 2

Clap in time to a beat

Step 3

Make and talk about movement patterns

Step 4

Talk about objects in patterns and arrangements

Step 5

Copy AB patterns with support

Step 6

Continue AB patterns with support

## Small steps

Step 1

Match dot patterns

Step 2

Be introduced to subitising games

Step 3

Play subitising games

Step 4

Copy sets of sounds

Step 5

Listen to and represent sounds with fingers

Step 6

Listen to and represent sounds with resources

## Small steps

Step 1

Sing rhymes to 5 and join in with movements

Step 2

Move props to 5

Step 3

Move props back from 5

Step 4

Show fingers to 5

Step 5

Begin to count 5 objects with one-to-one correspondence

Step 6

Match numerals to quantities when acting out songs

## Small steps

Step 1

Continue AB patterns

Step 2

Create their own AB patterns

Step 3

Notice an error in a pattern

Step 4

Build constructions with simple enclosures

Step 5

Copy simple repeated constructions

Step 6

Begin to sequence some events

## Small steps

Step 1

Count out up to 5 objects from a larger group

Step 2

Explore counting to 5 in different ways

Step 3

Verbally count to a given number

Step 4

Label objects with numerals

Step 5

Independently show fingers to 5

Step 6

Begin to make marks to represent quantities

## Small steps

Step 1

Compare up to 5 different objects

Step 2

Compare by matching

Step 3

Make the same set by matching

Step 4

Match by type

Step 5

Recognise attributes of objects

Step 6

Begin to sort some objects to a type