

## Number Balance

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### At a Glance

**Subject:** Mathematics

**Keystage:** Key Stage 2, Key Stage 1

**Timescale:** Task

**Scope:** Individual teacher, Groupwork, Pairwork, Individual student

**Resource Type:** Class Teaching, Interactive Whiteboard

**Development Stage:** Developing Idea

**Description:** Open ended activity that supports teacher led questioning and discussion in mathematics - particularly with regard to the calculation strand of the NNS. The KS 1 version uses 0 - 9 digits, in the form of draggable number tiles that are used to input the numbers. The symbols  $>$  and  $<$  are not used in this version. The KS 2 version uses either the keyboard or the increment buttons to enter numbers upto 99. The symbols  $<$  and  $>$  are used.

**Objective:** Various objectives from the NNS - particularly calculation. See objective sheet for further NNS references e.g. Yr4 Read and write the vocabulary of comparing and ordering numbers. Use symbols correctly, including less than ( $<$ ), greater than ( $>$ ), equals ( $=$ ).

**Assessment:** Teacher observation and questioning.

**Prior Knowledge:** KS1 Numbers 1 to 10, understanding of symbols  $+$  and  $=$  K2 Numbers to 99 and understanding of  $<$ ,  $>$  and  $=$

**Expectations:** Motivational activities for numeracy starters.

**Hints:** Use the reset button to clear number inputs from the KS1 version. When you drag a tile off the seesaw the number will remain as an input until it is replaced by another tile. Contact the author for MAC versions.

## Materials

### 1. Number balance objectives

[http://tre.ngfl.gov.uk/uploads/materials/17804/Number balance objectives.doc](http://tre.ngfl.gov.uk/uploads/materials/17804/Number%20balance%20objectives.doc)

MS Word

- Links to appropriate objectives with brief examples of how the resource can support the teaching of these.

### 2. Recording Sheet

[http://tre.ngfl.gov.uk/uploads/materials/17807/Recording Sheet.pdf](http://tre.ngfl.gov.uk/uploads/materials/17807/Recording%20Sheet.pdf)

PDF

- A pdf file for printing off and using to support pupils record their work when using the Number Balance application more independently.

### 3. KS 2 Flash file

<http://tre.ngfl.gov.uk/uploads/materials/17913/nbKS2.swf>

Macromedia Flash

- KS 2 version for opening in your internet browser.

#### **4. KS1 Flash file**

<http://tre.ngfl.gov.uk/uploads/materials/17914/nbKS1.swf>

Macromedia Flash

- KS 1 version for opening in your internet browser.

## **Comments**

### **1. Rhona Dick, TRE Moderator (30 Mar 05)**

These are really suitable tasks for both Key Stage 1 and 2 as they offer lots of flexibility for most year groups.   
 At Key Stage 1 only the = symbol is used. Teachers have the option to hide the seesaw, but I think it helps young children to understand the concept of balance.   
 At Key Stage 2 the symbols < and > are also introduced. Seeing the seesaw initially helps to reinforce the idea of more than or less than. Eventually teachers will feel that the visual representation is redundant, and the seesaw can be hidden.

<http://contribute.ngfl.gov.uk/server.php?request=cmVzb3VyY2UuZnVsbHZpZXc%3D&resourceId=12064>