

# Oral and mental starters

## Number and place value

### 1 Place value chains (1)

Begin to write a chain of numbers involving adding or subtracting 1, 10 or 100 to one-, two- or three-digit numbers. For example, write:

$46 + 10 \rightarrow 56 + 100 \rightarrow 156 - 1 \rightarrow 155 + 100 \rightarrow \dots$

Ask the children to continue the chain with other numbers in this way or to identify what has been added or subtracted to give a new number in the chain.

#### Extension

Use multiples of 1, 10 or 100.

### 2 Hundred square chase

You will need '100 square' from the CD-ROM. Split the class into two teams for this game. Identify one team as the runner and the other as the chaser. The runner starts on 1 and the chaser on 91. Teams take it in turns to choose a move from the following list: +11, -11, +9, -9, +1, -1. The aim is for chaser to reach runner.

#### Extension

Use the following list: +19, -19, +21, -21 and so on.

### 3 Writing numbers

Explain that when you say a number, you would like the children to write it on their individual whiteboards. When you say *Show me*, the children should hold up their boards to show you their recorded number (in either figures or in words). Say:

- Write 473... 3000... 4600... 5784... 8008... *Show me*.
- Write the number that is one more than \_\_\_\_\_. *Show me*.
- Write the number that is one less than \_\_\_\_\_. *Show me*.

Now focus on four-digit numbers. Check that the children have understood how to write numbers that include the digit zero.

### 4 Units digit

Provide each child with a number fan. Start the lesson by discussing simple sequences, for example, counting on in 5s from zero or counting back in 2s from 20. Begin counting aloud and then stop. Say:

- *What is the units digit of the next number? How do you know?*

Ask the children to hold up their number fan to show the units digit.

- *How do you know?*
- *What do you notice about the units digits of the numbers in the sequence?*

#### Extension

Over time explore a range of sequences, including counting in 10s or 100s from any number, where the units digit will always remain the same.