

Activity type

Whole class

Learning objective**Knowing and using number facts:** count on or back in ones and tens

Grab the beads

What to do

- Open the '2 spikes' screen. In the options menu, select random type 'number'.
- Click the 'random' button to generate a random number on the screen. Ask the children to read the number. Place the correct number of beads on the abacus by dragging them from the bottom right corner of the screen and dropping them onto the relevant spikes.
- Ask the children to discuss what you would have to do if you wanted to increase the number by 1.
- Invite one child to demonstrate and ask another child to predict what they think the new number will be.
- Now increase the number by 10, using the keypad. Ask: *Where would you place a bead to represent this new number?*
- Repeat with other numbers, increasing or decreasing by 1 or 10.

Key questions

- *What is different about the beads on the columns?*
- *How many beads can you fit onto one column? What happens if you add one more?*

Assessment for learning

Are the children able to count forward in ones and tens?

Activity type

Starter

Learning objective**Calculating:** understand subtraction as 'take away'

Going down

What to do

- Open the '2 spikes' screen. In the options menu, select random type 'beads'.
- Click the 'random' button to generate a random arrangement of beads. Ask the children what the number is and make a note of it on the board.
- Explain to the children that you are going to change the number by taking one bead away. Ask them to close their eyes and then take away a bead while their eyes are shut.
- Encourage the children to agree in pairs what the new number is, and to work out which bead has been taken away.
- Repeat the activity. As the children improve, take two beads away.

Key questions

- *How many beads are in the units column?*
- *If I take away one bead, how many beads are left?*

Assessment for learning

Do the children understand subtraction as 'taking away'?