


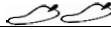






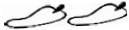



## Mental Agility Activity

### Addition and Subtraction

This is the indigo part of the Rainbow of Numeracy Skills. Choose any task to 'have a go' at from the grid, 1 chili means it is a mild challenge. If you feel you are getting there why not try a spicy or 2 chili challenge. If you really want to challenge yourself, try a 3 chili, or hot challenge. If you come up with your own challenge you can add it to the grid. You can either colour in the chilies or the block on the grid, or tick to show your teacher what you have chosen to work on.

Remember to choose how you want to practice the skill from Say, Write, Make, Do: e.g.

- Say aloud, sing songs
- Write the numbers out e.g. 40, 50, 60... use chalk, paint or any other way of recording including digital technology
- Draw items e.g. tally marks, pairs of socks, make posters or story books
- Count using items e.g. screws, cutlery, coins, pens...

Place out two groups of counters/objects. Count each group then screen them. 'How many altogether?' Repeat with different numbers. 	Place out a row of dots. Count to show that a dot is the 20 <sup>th</sup> . Indicate this by circling it. Hide the next three dots then point to the fourth dot along. What is this number? Repeat with different numbers. 	Using cubes, counters, or other materials ask children to show x. Add y more to their group. How many now? Repeat with larger/small numbers depending on confidence. 	Say a simple calculation i.e. 3+2. Ask children to show three fingers on one hand, two on the other and then count together to find the answer. Repeat with other numbers to five. 
Ask children to represent calculations by standing in different sized groups. Ask groups to combine to make a total. Display this as a written calculation on the board. 	Use clothes pegs on coat hangers to represent different additions. Write the calculation on the board and children use materials to show the sum and find the answer. 	Place hand behind head and raise x number of fingers on each hand. Bring hands in front and count fingers. 'How many all together?' Raise another finger, 'how many now?'. 	Show x number of counters then screen. Ask the child to look away and then screen y more counters. Say the new total and ask the child to work out how many have been added. Children can be encouraged to count on to find the answer. 
Show x number of counters. Remove y number and screen the remaining. Ask the child to work out how many are left. 	Show x number of counters. Remove y number and screen. There were x and now there are only ..., how many did I take away? 	Using toys i.e. teddies, there are 6 teddies and 4 pencils. How many teddies would not have a pencil? Repeat with different numbers. 	Show a subtraction calculation and ask children to show it on their fingers. There were x, take away y. How many now? 
Give each child a cube tower of x number of cubes. Ask them to take away y cubes. Each time count the remaining cubes then display the corresponding calculation on the board. 