

Digging Deeper

Counting back

The counting choirs game can be extended to 20.

Divide the children into 2 groups.

The first group counts on in ones.

The second group counts back in ones.

You 'conduct' the choir by pointing at each group in turn.

11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16 15, 14, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17,
16, 15, 14, 13, 12

One more, one less

Use the cubes to build a teen number.

Ask the children to identify which number you have made and discuss what one more and one less would be. Encourage them to build each number and line them up to check.

Can they continue the game beyond 20?

What patterns can they find?

Key questions

How many do I have?

Make the number which is one more than mine.

Make the number which is one less.

If I make 12, can you make one more?

What number comes after 20? And then? And then?

Spot the mistake

Make deliberate errors whilst counting up and down.

(A puppet is great for this)

Ask the children to listen carefully and stop you if they hear something wrong.

Errors can include omitted numbers, repeated numbers or numbers in the wrong place.

You could also play this game by asking children to watch carefully as you write number sequences.

12, 13, 41, 15, 16
18, 17, 16, 14, 13