

Key Instant Recall Facts

By the end of this half term, children should know the following facts. The aim is for them to recall these facts instantly.

- I can recognise quantities without counting, up to 5. (subitise)



Key Vocabulary:

subitise, one, two, three, four, five, pattern.

Questioning:

How did you know?

What did you notice?

Did you see a group or pattern?

Stem sentences:

I know it's ____ because..

I saw ____ and ____, so I knew it was ____.

Dot Card Flash

Prepare cards with 1–5 dots arranged in different patterns (e.g., dice patterns, random arrangements, or on a five-frame).

Hold up a card for 2–3 seconds and then hide it.

Ask, “How many dots did you see?”

Encourage your child to answer without counting.

Ask, “How did you know?” to help them explain what they noticed.

Dice Roll and Say

Roll a standard six-sided die (using only numbers 1–5 if preferred).

Ask your child to say the number as soon as they see it, without counting the dots.

Finger Flash

Quickly hold up between 1 and 5 fingers.

Ask your child to name the number immediately.

Try using one hand or both hands to show different combinations.

Spot the Objects

Place 1–5 small objects (such as blocks, buttons, toy animals, or pom-poms) on a table.

Cover the objects with a cloth or cup.

Reveal them for a few seconds before covering them again.

Ask your child how many objects they saw without counting.

Rearrange the objects each time to show different patterns.

Five-Frame Fun

Draw or print a five-frame (a row of five boxes).

Place counters in different positions on the frame.

Show the frame briefly and ask your child how many counters they can see.

Encourage them to notice groups, such as “3 because I saw two spaces empty.”

Snack Time Numbers

During snack time, place 1–5 pieces of food (grapes, crackers, berries, or cereal) on your child's plate.

Before eating, ask, “How many do you have?”

Change the arrangement each time to build flexibility.