

# Measures Unit 1

## Short Mental Workouts

*The short activities suggested below do not have to be done at the beginning of your maths lesson – they are suitable for doing at any time of the day to provide ongoing revision of important mental and oral skills.*

*While there probably isn't time during your maths lesson for these activities, it is crucial to regularly revisit the skills used. You decide when to use them – perhaps at the beginning of the day for 'morning maths', as you line up for lunch, or as a 'brain-break' during the afternoon.*

*If an image is suggested, you can find it on the sheet(s) below and/or use the link (beginning [https://wrht.org.uk/...](https://wrht.org.uk/)) to find it, and other related generic materials.*

### Day 1

#### Numbers before and after

Quick-fire activity: ask children to tell you the number one more and one less than a given number. *What is one more than 15? One less?*

Focus on numbers 1 to 20 with Year 1 children and 1 to 100 with Year 2 children.

### Day 2

#### How many?

You need a jar or clear container with 28 cubes or beads in it. Ask children to work with a partner to estimate the number of cubes/beads in the jar, and to record their estimate. Empty the jar and count the cubes/beads, grouping them in tens, to check. This can be repeated with different numbers of items in the container.

### Day 3

#### Which unit?

Say the name of an animal and ask the children what standard or non-standard unit might be appropriate to use to measure its length, e.g. *What would they use to measure a mouse?* (centimetres, cubes) *What about an elephant?* (metres, garden canes)