

Numeracy Volunteers

'My Maths Story'

Volunteer assemblies for primary schools



Get children thinking about the maths in life beyond school by delivering a talk in assembly or the classroom about how you use numeracy in your job and everyday life. This is a great way of raising the profile of maths in school and helping children see why they learn it.

About Us

National Numeracy was established as an independent charity in 2012 to help raise low levels of numeracy among both adults and children and to promote the importance of everyday maths skills. Our mission is to empower children and adults in the UK to get on with numbers so they can fulfil their potential at work, home and school.

Volunteering is a brand-new programme for National Numeracy and possible with the kind support of Capital One. Thank you for volunteering as part of our pilot programme. We will be learning together and value your feedback throughout this process.

Assemblies or Class Talks

Your talk will aim to:

- inspire children to see the maths in life beyond school
- enable pupils to make the link between what they are learning and the world of work
- get children thinking about jobs that involve maths
- challenge stereotypes about careers and the world of work
- meet the Gatsby Benchmark of Good Career Guidance: Benchmark 4 – Linking Curriculum Learning to Careers and Benchmark 5 – Encounters with Employees and Employers

Preparing and delivering your talk

- Please use the slide template provided to plan and prepare your talk.
- We have suggested ideas and examples, please let us know if you need any help or further ideas.
- Please email your slides to us at least one day before your talk. We can advise on whether anything needs changing and check with you before forwarding them on to the school.
- The talk will take about 15 minutes – we have suggested flexible timings as a guide.
- Children will have been asked to prepare questions in advance of the session.
- Children should know to put their hands up and not shout out. Ask children with their hand up for their answer.
- When they do, repeat the child's question out loud to ensure that everyone has heard what was asked before you answer.
- If there are more than four or five questions, it's a good idea to say, 'we need to move on now but there will be time for more questions later.' At the end you could say children can pass questions on to the teacher and you'll get the answers to them.
- Speak slowly, keep language simple and project your voice confidently so that everyone in the hall can hear you.

Important Safeguarding Reminders

- Do always sign in and out at reception. If you are given a sticker or lanyard make sure it is displayed prominently on your person.
- Do always be in open view when working with children or young people. There should always be a staff member present. Do not be alone with a child or a group of children.
- Do use staff toilets – ask a member of staff if you're unsure where they are
- Don't take photos while volunteering in a school. If they wish to schools will take photos and share them on social media.
- Don't have your phone on display, keep it concealed and turned off at all times
- Do report any safeguarding concern to the Designated Safeguarding Lead at the schools or a member of the Senior Leadership Team and let us know you have done so.

Please read our full [Safeguarding Summary](#) to refresh your knowledge in this area before going into a school.

If you have any questions or you are no longer able to attend a session please email volunteering@nationalnumeracy.org.uk. Please be aware that cancelling at short notice can be disruptive to schools who have planned for your visit so where cancelling is un-avoidable, please do give as much notice as possible.