

Numeracy Volunteers

'My Maths Story' and 'Maths in the Real World'

Numeracy volunteer sessions in primary schools



Get children thinking about the maths in the real world with National Numeracy! We are looking for volunteers to visit primary schools to share their experiences through our 'My Maths Story' assembly and / or our 'Maths in the Real World' interactive classroom lesson. It's a great way of raising the profile of maths in schools and helping children see why they learn it, whilst demonstrating your own skills and giving back your community .

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.

As part of our volunteering programme we are pleased to be enabling volunteers from our corporate partners to deliver sessions in primary schools that inspire children to see the value of maths in the real world.

Our activities aim to:

- Enable pupils to make the link between what they are learning and the world of work.
- Encourage children to think about jobs that involve maths.
- Inspire children to see the maths in everyday life beyond school.
- Challenge stereotypes about careers and the world of work.
- Enable volunteers to showcase and develop presentation, planning and communication skills.
- Give volunteers an enjoyable experience, creating a sense of achievement.

'My Maths Story' assembly

Share your numeracy journey, what your job role entails, what you do in your spare time and how it all involves numeracy. Encourage the children to think about how they use numeracy every day.

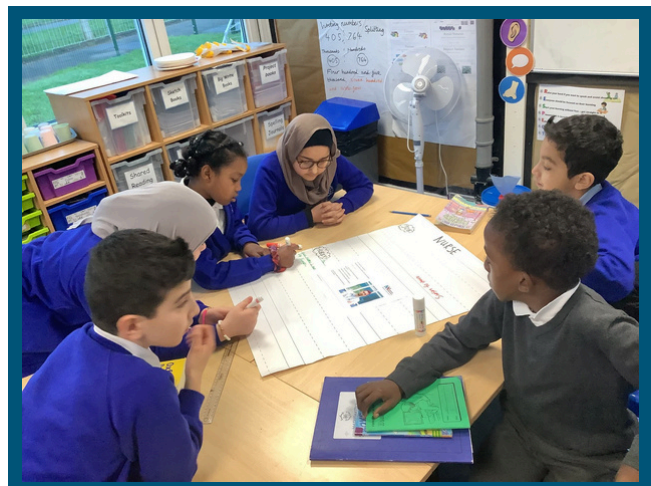
- Assemblies take approximately 15 minutes.
- Assemblies are suitable for Key Stage 2 assembly (aged 7 - 11, junior school)
- Use our pre-prepared slide template to prepare and deliver your talk.
- You don't need to take any equipment into school with you.
- Children will be encouraged to prepare some questions to ask you about your job / career in advance of the session.
- No prior experience of working with schools or presenting is necessary.
- Demonstrate and develop your planning, communication and presentation skills.



'Maths in the Real World' interactive classroom session

This session is designed to be teacher-led and supported by one or two volunteers. Children will meet characters, some in real life and some fictional and explore the maths they use in their jobs and hobbies. Children are split into small groups and take part in a carousel activity, with the groups moving around the classroom to visit different characters in turn. A short reflective activity follows the carousel. This session can also be run as a parent and child activity, where parents and carers are invited in to the classroom to take part with their children, promoting positive parental engagement.

- One approximately 45 minute lesson.
- Suitable for upper Key Stage 2 (ages 8 -11).
- You will introduce yourself and talk briefly about your job and hobby and how both use maths.
- You don't need to prepare anything in advance.
- A PowerPoint slide deck guides the teacher through the lesson.
- A full lesson plan is provided with character details, job profiles and an activity sheet.
- The school will set the room up ready for the session.



Volunteer Training

Before volunteering in a school you will be required to complete our 90-minute online training. The training covers numeracy in the UK, maths anxiety, supporting children with number confidence and positive attitudes towards maths, safeguarding and activity delivery.

Safeguarding -

You don't require a DBS check but must complete our registration form and sign up to our Volunteer Agreement including Safeguarding Summary.

Priority areas

This programme will prioritise areas of greater need across the UK by supporting our Schools & Families programme schools. We are particularly looking for volunteers to visit schools in the following areas - North East, North West, Greater Manchester, East Midlands, West Midlands (Birmingham and Wolverhampton), Stoke on Trent, Cambridgeshire (Wisbech), London and Cornwall.

Where volunteers would like to visit a school known to them (for example their children's school, their old primary school or a school they are a governor at) we ask that the volunteer makes the arrangements and lets us know the dates, times and contact details for the booking. We will send the school an initial email to assist with this.

Maths in my job

- I am a Software Engineer at Capital One
- I write computer programmes that enable us to deliver incredible financial products to our customers faster. Includes helping to build websites and apps
- I use maths to write processes that make our software programmes work
- I also use maths to improve the performance and quality of the software we build
- Does anybody want to ask me anything about my job?



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Maths in my life outside work

- I use maths to create budgets for my holiday personal shopping even when making pizza at home
- I use maths skills like recognising patterns and problem-solving help me when playing my favourite video game, saxophone and board games
- Does anybody have any questions about how I use maths outside of work?



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Maths in my life outside work

I use maths to:

- Budget – to work out how much money I can spend in a month
- Play the cello in orchestras and musical theatre productions
- When I go flying – to calculate how much fuel to put into the plane
- Does anybody have any questions about how I use maths outside of work?



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"I loved it and felt the children and school staff did too. The presentation template was great and the flow worked really well. "

- Capital One volunteer

"The assembly went very well. The children were engaged and had many questions... it helped them to see the real-life examples and uses of maths, in and out of work, and children are always more receptive to these messages from a visitor"

- St Mary's Primary School, Nottingham



We hope you will want to get involved as a Numeracy Volunteer!

To complete a registration form please contact your CSR representative.

If you have questions please contact laura@nationalnumeracy.org.uk.