

# Numeracy Volunteers

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

Free Numeracy Volunteer sessions for primary schools



**Get children thinking about the maths in the real world with National Numeracy!**  
**Volunteers from the corporate world will come into 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 your 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.

As part of our new volunteering programme we are pleased to be enabling volunteers from our corporate partners to deliver assemblies and support lessons in primary schools that inspire children to see the value of maths in the real world. There are no costs to the school.

### 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.
- Meet the Gatsby Benchmark of Good Career Guidance: Benchmark 4 – Linking Curriculum Learning to Career and Benchmark 5 – Encounters with employees.

## 'My Maths Story' assembly

Volunteers will share their own numeracy journey, what their job role entails, what they do in their spare time and how it all involves numeracy. They will also encourage the children to think about how they use numeracy every day.

- Assembly takes approximately 15 minutes.
- 1 or 2 volunteers will attend. We will let you know their name and job title in advance.
- Talks are suitable for Key Stage 2 assembly (can be split by year groups if required).
- Volunteers will use pre-prepared slides to deliver the talk.
- We will need a laptop attached to a screen available for use.
- We advise you to encourage children to prepare some questions to ask the volunteer about their job / career in advance of the session.



## 'Maths in the Real World' interactive classroom session

This session is designed to be led by the class teacher 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 each group looking at the 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.
- A PowerPoint slide deck will guide you through the lesson.
- A full lesson plan is provided with character details, job profiles and an activity sheet.
- The school will need to provide 5/6 large pieces of paper, pens and pencils.
- The option to invite parents and carers to attend to support positive conversations about maths.



## Volunteer Training

All our volunteers will have undertaken training that covers:

- Numeracy in the UK.
- Maths anxiety.
- How to support number confidence.
- Supporting children to develop positive attitudes towards maths.
- Safeguarding.
- Activity delivery.

### Safeguarding -

Please note our volunteers are not DBS checked so need to be accompanied at all times.



**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 fast. This 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?

**Maths in my life outside work**

- I use maths to create budgets for my holidays/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/the saxophone and board games
- Does anybody have any questions about how I use maths outside of work?

**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?



"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**

"The assembly was really well prepared with use of key words and visuals to support children with English as an additional language. Lots of opportunities for children to ask questions and well timed"

**– William Davis Primary School, London.**

## Request a 'My Maths Story' and/or 'Maths in the Real World' session

Please complete [this form](#) to request a volunteer visit to your school.

If you have questions prior to requesting a session, please contact [laura@nationalnumeracy.org.uk](mailto:laura@nationalnumeracy.org.uk).