

Birds in the Garden 1

A Numicon adding and subtracting activity for pairs.

What you will need

- 2 sets of 1–10 Numicon Shapes per pair
- One copy of this sheet per pair (please note: this is an A3 document and needs to be printed at 100%)
- The Bird Cards from this sheet, cut out and put in a pile face down

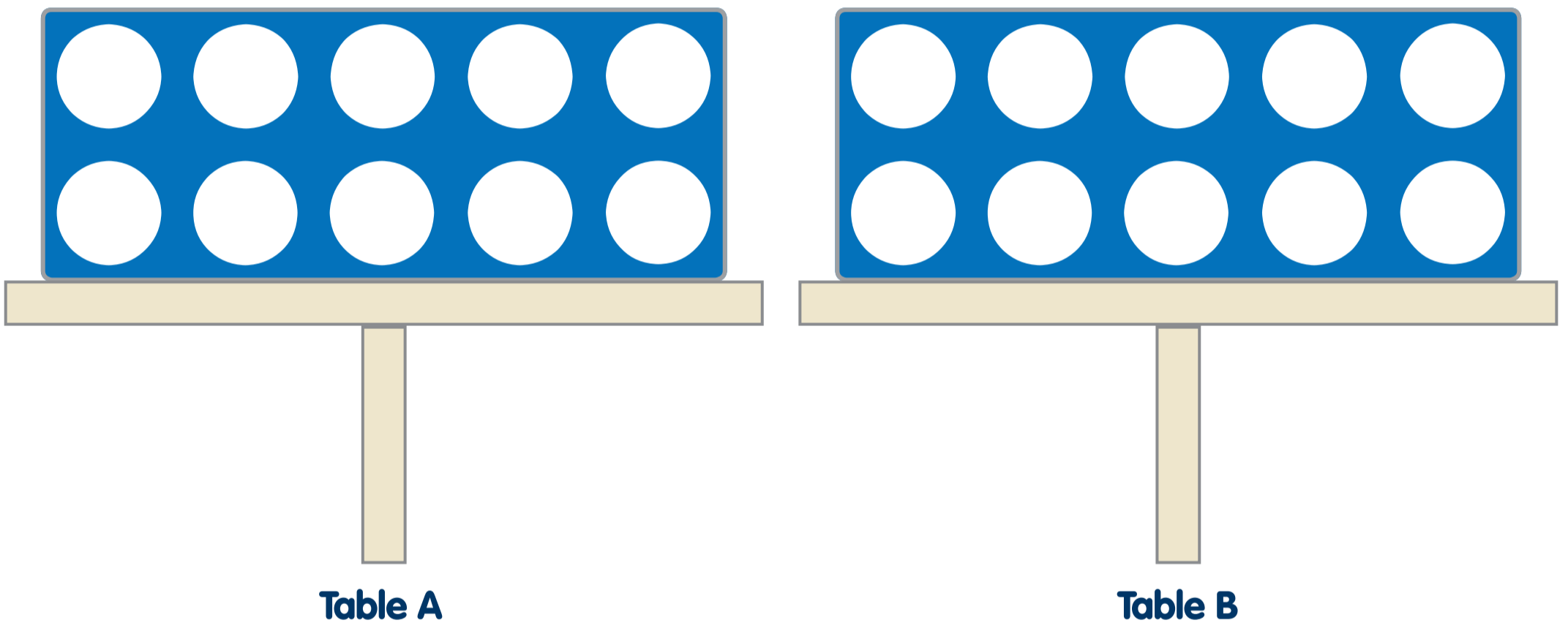
What to do

- Each partner chooses a Bird Table (A or B) on the sheet. There is room for 10 birds to feed on each table.
- Choose 1 card each from the pile without looking and place it on your bird table.
- Find the Numicon Shape which represents the total number of each type of bird indicated on your card. For example, if you pick the card '3 blackbirds and 1 pigeon', you would take a 3-shape and a 1-shape.
- Place the Numicon Shapes for your total onto your bird table. How many are there altogether? You can place the Shape for your total over the top of the Shapes on your bird table.
- Compare the tables: how many more and how many fewer are on each table?
- Repeat, selecting different cards.
- Repeat the activity, taking 2 cards each. Add the Shapes together. Can all the birds fit on the table? If not, swap one of your cards with your partner.

Extensions and questions

- How many birds are on the 2 tables altogether?
- How many more birds could fit onto each table?
- Take 3 cards each and add them together to get as close as possible to 10 birds. If you have more than 10, choose 2 of the cards to make a total as close to 10 as possible. Ask your partner to swap if they have cards which could help you reach the total.
- Make up your own bird cards with different numbers and ask the questions above.

Bird Tables



Bird Cards

