

Spring Animals 2

A Numicon ‘finding all possibilities’ activity

What you will need (per pair)

- A copy of this sheet. **Please note:** this is an A3 document and needs to be printed at 100%
- Numicon 2- and 4-shapes
- For Extensions: 6- shapes

What to do

- Use the template below.
- Explain that children can see a pond. In the pond, there are ducks and frogs.
- Ensure children know that ducks have 2 legs and frogs have 4 legs.
- Tell children that there are a total of 20 legs in the pond (represented by the two 10-shapes).
- Use the Numicon 2- and 4-shapes to represent the number of legs on the ducks and frogs respectively.
- Ask children to find all the possible solutions to the number of frogs and ducks they could see. For example, 10 ducks = 20 legs, or 5 frogs = 20 legs, or a combination of both ducks and frogs, such as 3 frogs and 4 ducks ($3 \times 4 + 4 \times 2 = 20$ legs).

Extensions and questions

- What is the smallest number of animals you could see?
- What is the largest number of animals you might see?
- Introduce a dragonfly (6 legs) – what combinations can you see now?
- Add fewer/more legs you can see in the pond (by adding another Numicon Shape to the pond template).

