# Small steps Blocks 1–8 Nursery



Collect objects to compare amounts
Make simple comparisons of amounts
Look for collections of large and small amounts
Compare and talk about large and small amounts
Make large and small collections
Make collections the same



Step 1	Explore and play with shapes
Step 2	Show interest in simple differences between shapes
Step 3	Put shapes and blocks into position
Step 4	Select shapes for a reason
Step 5	Begin to explore and describe natural shapes and objects
Step 6	Find and collect objects for a purpose



Step 1	Listen to repeats in songs and stories
Step 2	Start to join in songs with repeats
Step 3	Start to join in with repeats from stories
Step 4	Clap along to songs
Step 5	Make line patterns with own sequences
Step 6	Choose blocks to build roads and towers



Step 1	Hear some number names
Step 2	Join in saying some number names
Step 3	Model saying number names in order
Step 4	Practise saying number names in order
Step 5	Join in stable order counting forwards
Step 6	Join in stable order counting backwards



Model saying 1, 2 and 3 in play
Copy the sequence of 1, 2 and 3
Copy fingers to represent 1, 2 and 3
Begin to count actions
Say number names in order
Begin to recognise that anything can be counted



Step 1	Notice images in books
Step 2	Respond to "I see 1, 2, 3"
Step 3	Recognise "I see 1, 2, 3"
Step 4	Copy "I see 1, 2, 3"
Step 5	Point to 1, 2, 3
Step 6	Recognise 1, 2, 3 in well-known tales



Join in with repeated actions in songs
Join in with repeats in songs and stories
Sing some refrains independently
Have a sense of daily routines
Say what happens next
Make arrangements in art



Step 1	Respond to simple language of position
Step 2	Arrange blocks in a chosen position
Step 3	Select shapes for a space
Step 4	Recognise when 2 objects are the same shape
Step 5	Explore and describe shapes and objects
Step 6	Sort shapes and objects into simple categories