

In many countries the 100th day of school in each year is celebrated by a weeklong focus on the number 100. The 100th day this year will fall in February. The PCSP Maths Cuiditheoirí have compiled a selection of activities, which can be enjoyed by classes throughout the school and can be used by individual children, pairs and groups. The activities can also be differentiated to suit different learning needs. The activities are most suited to classes from first upwards.

In taking on this project you can cover or revise many of the objectives in the maths curriculum particularly in the strand units of Number, Measures and Data. There is also the opportunity for integration with other subjects and we have outlined a selection of limited activities in this article. They are only suggestions as there are simply 100s more that both you and the children can develop.

The first thing to do is to work out when the 100th day occurs in your own school.

General School ideas

- Encourage the children to make a 100th Day sign for each classroom. It could be a funny face made from one hundred blobs of paint, the numerals 100 on squared paper (what's the largest area you can cover with the numerals?), ten balloons with the numeral 10 on each one... The options are endless.
- Spend 100 minutes on the 100th day on some of the suggested activities – encourage the children to come up with ideas. You could also invite some parents to help with the fun and games.
- Make the number 100 in the playground with 100 children then photograph and display it.

Number ideas

- Get the children to make strings of beads, blocks of cubes, links or other materials in groups of ten (or five, or 20) up to 100. Make each set different in one attribute, for example colour or size.

- The answer is 100 – what is the number story...? Who can make the funniest number story?
- How many throws of the dice will it take to reach 100? What is the least/most throws it could take? Predict how many throws it will take you. Use a hundred square to keep track.
- Cut up 100 squares and make them into a number line. Cut

matter who goes first?

- Use digit cards or playing cards with the four operations $+$ $-$ \times and try to get to the target number 100. Can you do it using all four operations, using only two?

Data

- Do a tally of 100 vehicles passing the school with different children tallying cars, lorries,

Measures

- Have clear plastic bags with 100 different objects in each, for example 100 cent, 100 lolly sticks, 100 pieces of Styrofoam packing, 100 grains of rice, pieces of pasta... Explore the weight of the bags by hand-weighting and discussing which bag is the heaviest, lightest, which material takes up the most space.
- Money lends itself well to 100th day activities
- You could have the children estimate how tall a stack of 100 cent coins would be and then check.
- Would a stack of 10 cent coins be as tall?
- Name something which costs around €100
- Estimate the length of a line of cent coins – measure a row to find out.
- Coin tossing, what will happen if we toss a coin 100 times? Ten groups of children toss a coin 10 times and give their totals to make up 100 tosses. How many heads? How many tails? Was your estimate close?
- Look at a catalogue and see what you can buy for €100.
- Draw a 100cm square in the playground and see how many children can stand inside of it. Draw rectangles and triangles with a perimeter of 100cm and do the same experiment. Use this as a starting point for discussing area and perimeter.
- Have some children stand in a line in the yard and count 100 steps forward – will they all end up in the same place? Why and why not?
- All children in the class close their eyes and you start a stopwatch. Ask the children to stand at their place when they think 100 seconds is up.
- Have 100 seconds of silence...

Some ideas for SESE

- In the senior classes the children could look on a map to establish what they would find if they took a radius of 100 km (100 metres) from the school.
- List one hundred things that were not available around

The



Day of School

100 squares up into different arrangements like a jigsaw and ask a partner to put them back together again. A good idea for this is to use different coloured paper for each person in the pair.

- Make a snakes and ladders type game with your hundred square and play the game using a dice. Discuss: What makes a fair game? Does it

bicycles, motorbikes... and one child counting the 100. Work out the percentage of each type; make a bar chart, a pie chart.

- Count 100 cars tallying for colour, year of manufacture, county registration and represent in different graphical forms. Discuss and interpret the findings.

- 100 years ago.
- Develop a time line of the last 100 years in your locality – how have things changed?
 - When will (was) our school 100 years old.
 - Count out 100 kernels of popcorn, estimate and weigh the kernels, also explore how much space they take up. Taking proper safety measures in using hot surfaces pop the corn and when it has cooled weigh it again and see how it compares with the weight of the kernels. You can also explore how much space the popped corn takes up.
 - Ask the children to see if they have anything at home that is more than 100 years old. With parental permission they could bring the item to school for a show and tell session.
 - Have the children draw themselves as they think they will

look when they are 100 years old

- Have the children draw the clothes and houses they think people will have in a hundred years from now.
- Ask the children to talk to their parents and find out if there is anyone in the locality who is 100 years old.

Hundred writing

- Write a story that is exactly 100 words long.
- Have fun with the topic 'I wish I had 100... but I wouldn't like 100 ...' This could end up as a poem for example I wish I had a hundred dogs but I wouldn't like a hundred frogs...
- In groups make books in which each illustration shows 10 items and the total is 100 – they could use rubber stamps or potato prints to make the illustrations.
- If a is worth 1 cent and z is

worth 26 cents, what is your name worth?

Anne O'Grady is worth
 $1+14+14+5+15+7+18+1+4+25 = 104$

- Use facts related to 100 to make a 100th day booklet. Here are some examples:
 - 100 cent equals one Euro
 - The Roman numeral C stands for 100
 - A person who is 100 years old is a centenarian
 - 100 centimetres equals one metre
 - 100 years is a century
 - 100% means you got all your answers correct (100% = 1 whole)
 - The Sleeping Beauty slept for 100 years.

PE

- There are plenty of opportunities to create relay games of all sorts. Bounce the ball for 20, change to throwing and catching for 20 then partner

joins in and have passing for 20.

- Do a sequence of exercises in tens – leaders of teams can call out exercises from a list, for example 10 arm circles, 10 hops, 10 claps, 10 scissors jumps... The rule is you must continue counting up to 100.

As there are so many websites dealing with this topic we would suggest that you type 100th day of school into a search engine and this will result in lots of interesting sites. We wish to acknowledge that we adapted many of the ideas in our own article from those on these educational websites.

There are also a number of further activities on our own website www.pfsp.ie

Compiled by Maths Team of the Primary Curriculum Support Programme. Visit their website at www.pfsp.ie for further ideas.