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Dear Parents and Careers,

The creators of Times Tables Rock Stars have produced a platform for boosting addition and subtraction skills. Numbots is an online resource to support your children's Mathematics in Early Years, Key Stage 1 and early Key Stage 2.

Story Mode for Understanding

In Story Mode, the emphasis is on mathematical concepts and is underpinned by a mastery approach to teaching. Story Mode features visual representations, procedural variation, exposure to different calculation strategies and interleaved material all in very carefully sequenced order.

Unlocking Levels

Story Mode is set out as a series of Stages (Rust, Tin, Iron, etc) containing levels, a bit like Angry Birds. Rust is the first Stage and level 1 is unlocked, so this is the place for *everyone* to start. To unlock the next level, players need to earn two stars by showing sufficient proficiency.

Get in the Habit

Aim for pupils to play in Story Mode for 5 minutes, 5 times a week, to get the best out of NumBots. Playing little and often will significantly improve your child's recall and understanding of number bonds and addition and subtraction facts. Little and often is key (spaced practice is more effective than blocked practice).

Logging In

All pupils now have a username and password. They might need some help navigating to the website (<https://play.numbots.com/#/account/school-login/97411>) and entering the details but once they're in, they just need some quiet space to get on with the games for 5 minutes. **Important:** please don't allow siblings, friends or family to answer for them but do support your child if they're stuck.

Game Types

1. Story Mode – the emphasis is on learning the ideas and concepts behind addition and subtraction so it features more diagrams, shapes and question styles.
2. Challenge Mode – the emphasis is more on speed of recall of key facts, like number bonds to 10, doubling small numbers or adding & taking away in your head.



The Numbots App is free and available at the [Apple Store](#) and on [Google Play Store](#).

This allows children to use NumBots on mobile devices and tablets.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs Mckenzie
Phase Leader Year 1 and 2
Maths Mastery Co-lead



