Place value

Our decimal number system is based on multiples of 10. It is a Base 10 system.

We teach children to recognise the value, or place value, of numbers using this system. We can use a simple place value chart to start this understanding. Each column to the left is 10 times bigger (more value) than the one before. Children may use wooden blocks to see the values.

1 short	=	one (1)
1 long	=	1 ten (10)
1 flat	=	1 hundred (100)
1 block	=	1 thousand (1000)

So 125 would be shown on this chart as:

Hundreds	Tens	Ones
1	**2**	**5**

Later they are able to split the numbers into their value as:

<p align="center">125 = 1 hundred + 2 tens + 5 ones = 100 + 20 + 5</p>

This helps them to understand trading when adding and subtracting.

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