

The story behind our maths toolboxes

Almost every maths leader we speak to is exasperated by the need to constantly repurchase class sets of resources that were supplied less than two or three years earlier. As maths leaders, we would sit for hours counting dice, distributing jars of resources to each classroom, building maths trolleys, but nothing worked long-term to keep each classroom well-resourced. We tried everything and, eventually, found that toolboxes were the long-term solution.

Our toolboxes were created by Australian numeracy coaches, who chose and tried the most durable materials we could find for daily hands-on mathematics for the early years and years 3-6. All materials are packed for you into class sets, within easy-to-maintain and distribute toolboxes to ensure you can maximise both your budget and your time. The quick distribution containers also make organisation and set-up/pack-up easier for teachers, encouraging more use of materials for maths. Containers can be moved around the room to avoid traffic jams and resources are easy to see and keep neat, mostly because students love the toolbox, often volunteering to pack it up and maintain it.

The toolboxes include custom-made resources that have been invented by Top Ten Mathematics. This includes **3-dot dice** for early subitising and more suspenseful maths games that lead to more recording after each roll. The newest addition are custom-made **centimetre-metre decimal conversion measuring tapes** (centimetres on one side, then flip the tape vertically to see the metre/decimal conversion). These are used for most years 3-6 measurement lessons, as well as decimal number line games.

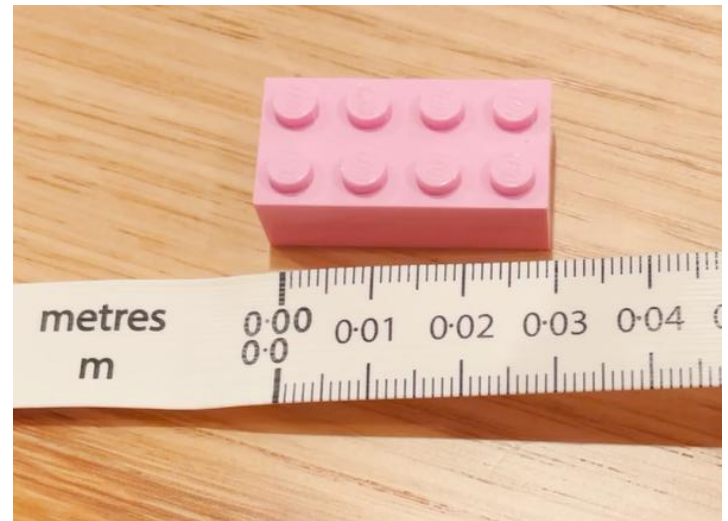
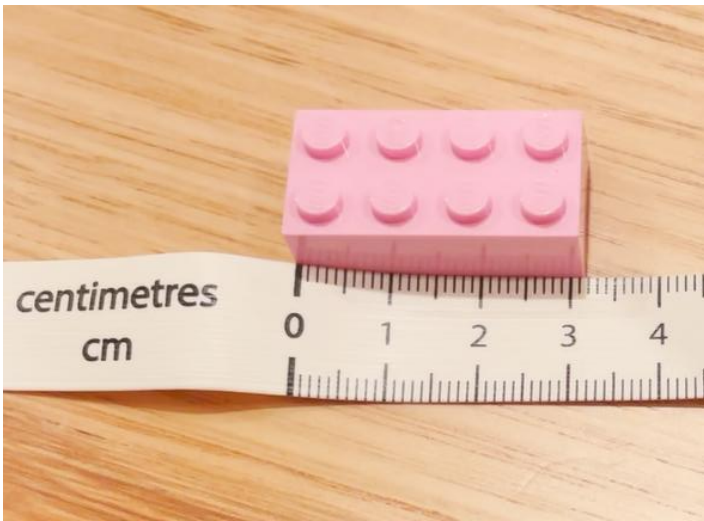
The organised toolboxes with consistent contents make retaining resources and maximising the use of numeracy budgets from year-to-year a considerably easier process. **In term four, maths teams and leaders can simply collect, top up and swap toolboxes as teachers move year levels.** This avoids resources becoming lost as teachers change classrooms each year. The nature of the toolbox and its containers, with space for each material, reduces loss and makes it easier for teachers to use, maintain and then return the toolbox at the end of each year. Maths leaders can then add a few elements into toolboxes all at once, such as a new material for each year level, **rather than constantly starting from scratch**. Purchase additional toolboxes for extra classrooms at any time.



Virtual tours at: www.toptenresources.com/mathstoolboxes

Brand New, Custom-Made 150 Centimetre / 1.5 Metre Decimal Conversion Measuring Tapes

15 included in each Years 3-6 Toolbox



Flip the tape measure to convert centimetres to metres, or metres to centimetres, and to discover or receive feedback on the decimal conversion.

New, Custom-Made 3-Dot Dice

30 included in each Early Years and Years 3-6 Toolbox

Ensures early years students can practise subitising 1-3 before 4-6. Also makes games more suspenseful, such as races to 10, races to 100 or 1000 (with 3-dot dice representing the tens or hundreds). Also used in races to 1 whole along the decimal measuring tapes above (with 3-dot dice representing tenths). Creates more recording opportunities during games, as students record after each roll.



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Early Years Toolbox

Inclusions

Contents of the Early Years Toolbox

- 1 lightweight durable toolbox with 15 partner distribution containers
- 24 medium-sized no-noise foam dice
- 30 custom-made 3-dot dice: ideal for the early years as these are dice with only 1, 2 or 3 dots on each face, creating more opportunities for student recording and longer engagement for maths buddy games, and supporting subitising for intervention students.
- 200 two-sided counters (red on side A, blue on side B) – one of our favourite and most versatile resources for the early years!
- 30 one-to-one counting/skip-counting sticks
- 100 colourful 6-sided dice
- 100 colourful 10-sided dice
- 30 character counters for use as students' characters during number chart and number line games
- 30 grip mats for organised and silent use of materials throughout lessons

All for \$299 ex. GST, **free postage anywhere in Australia.**

For teachers purchasing for themselves, the entire cost is tax deductible.



Custom-made 3-dot
dice for early years
subitising and to
keep games more
interesting for longer
(races to 10).

Years 3-6 Toolbox Inclusions

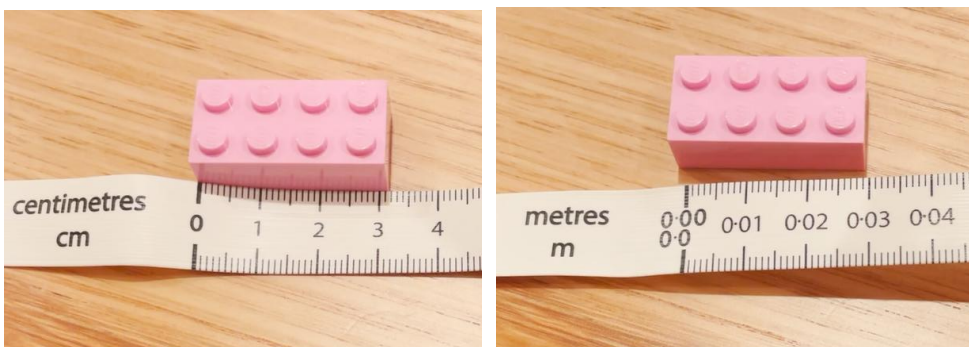
Contents of the Years 3 to 6 Toolbox

(also used by secondary schools for intervention)

- 1 lightweight durable toolbox with 15 partner distribution containers
- 15 centimetre/metre decimal conversion measuring tapes for decimal number line games and regular measurement lessons
- 200 character counters for higher student engagement during hands-on maths games, often used for fraction and division hands-on lessons, as well as integer and other number line and decimal chart games
- 12 decks of premium jumbo playing cards for hands-on warm-ups and games
- 30 custom-made 3-dot dice for slower, more suspenseful games, also requiring more recording after each turn
- 100 durable 6-sided dice
- 100 durable 10-sided dice
- 30 grip mats for organised and silent use of materials throughout lessons

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Who needs inches when you can have centimetres and metres, as well as direct decimal conversions of cm/m by flipping over the tape!