

## Tenths

### Purpose:

The purpose of this activity is to help your child develop their knowledge of the number of tenths in whole numbers. Knowledge of tenths builds on knowledge of tens and hundreds in whole numbers which is developed in the activity Tens and Hundreds. You may like to complete Tens and Hundreds before trying this activity.

### Link to Number Framework:

Place Value, Stage 6

### What you need:

- Sales brochures, for example supermarkets and large discount stores. Choose catalogues which have easily read prices.

### What to do:

- Select an item, for example a packet of cereal that costs \$3.80. Ask your child about the number of ten cent pieces they could use to buy the item.  
*How many ten cent pieces would you need to buy this box of cereal? Why?*  
You would need 38 ten cent pieces because that would be 38 cents, which is \$3.80.
- If your child is having difficulty, remind them that there are 10 ten cent pieces in every dollar. Use this knowledge to build up to the price of the item. For example, for an item costing \$6.50:  
*How many ten cent coins are there in \$1? (10)*  
*How many would there be in \$2? (20)*  
*How many would there be in \$3? (30)*  
*How many would there be in \$4? (40)*  
*How many would there be in \$5? (50)*  
*How many would there be in \$6? (60)*  
*How many ten cent coins would there be in \$6.50? (65)*
- Repeat using different items and different prices.
- Talk about ten cents as being one tenth of a dollar.  
*There are 10 ten cent coins in one dollar, so one ten cent coin is one tenth of a dollar.*  
*There are one hundred cents in a dollar. Ten is one tenth of one hundred because there are ten tens in one hundred.*
- When children are confident with these questions, ask them about the number of tenths in whole numbers.  
*How many tenths are there in all of 3? 30 tenths*  
*How many tenths are there in all of 81? 810 tenths*

### What to expect your child to do:

- Children should know the number of tenths in a whole number. For example there are 20 tenths in 2, 400 tenths in 40 and 5000 tenths in 500.
- Knowledge of tenths follows from knowledge of tens and hundreds in whole numbers. Before children learn about tenths they need to know, for example:  
In 563 there are 563 ones in total, 56 tens in total and 5 hundreds in total.  
In 7 814 there are 7 814 ones in total, 781 tens in total, 78 hundreds in total, and 7 thousands in total.

### Related Māori vocab:

tenths	hautekau
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