

Whole Number: Key Skill 2

State the place value of digits in numbers up to 9 999 (4-digit numbers)



A **digit** is a symbol used to write a numeral. The digits 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9 are used to write all the numbers in our number system. A 4-digit number is any 4 numbers together e.g. 2 504 or 7 618.

Place value shows the amount a digit is worth due to its position in a number. Place value is how many ones, tens, hundreds and thousands are in a number e.g. the number 8 374 has 8 thousands, 3 hundreds, 7 tens and 4 ones or $8\,000 + 300 + 70 + 4$.



Understanding place value helps children understand the meaning and value of a number, which helps with maths strategies they learn later like trading in addition and subtraction.

Dealing with 4-digit numbers builds confidence when working with numbers. Being able to read numbers easily and quickly helps children to work with them.

Remember to include 0s when working with place value!



Use cards (Uno cards are great!) to make random numbers of 4 or more digits and ask questions e.g. shuffle the cards and make the number 1 472. Ask:

- How many hundreds are there in 1 472?
- Which number is in the tens column?
- Which number is in the ones column?
- What is the number after this one?
- What is the smallest number you can make with these cards?
- What is the second largest number you can make with these cards?

Try this with lots of different numbers. Have a race to see who can find the cards and make a said number.

Make a table and use it to work out the place value of a number. Fill one out and leave gaps to be filled in. Here are some examples:

number	thousands	hundreds	tens	ones
4 518	4	5	1	8
3 602		6	0	
	2	4	7	7
1 198	1		9	8



WEB LINKS go to:

[Notes: Place value explained](#)

[Notes: Counting and place value explained](#)

[Game: Place value pandemonium](#)