

Spotlight 4

Has difficulty in partitioning numbers with zero place holders and/or numbers less than one, for example partitioning 0.45 as 0.4 and 0.05

Opportunity for: making decisions

3 Y6 +/–

Spot the zero

Time 15–20 minutes

Resources

- Sticky notes
- Counters or rewards
- Place value cards

Key vocabulary

zero	units/ones
place holder	decimal
column	tenth
hundreds	hundredth
tens	partition

Teaching activity

‘We are going to do some more work on numbers with zeros today.’

Write some numbers with zeros on sticky notes, for example:

2010	6000	790	60.9
606	6.09	3030	3.04

Put the numbers on display.

‘I’m going to choose one of the numbers and I’m going to give you a clue about which number it is and you have to work out which number I mean.’

? Which number is a three-digit number with zero in the units? (790)

? How did you know which number to choose?

If the child needs support, you could ask them to identify all the numbers with three digits.

Also, as the numbers are indicated, you could make them with place value cards.

Repeat with all the numbers; then suggest that you swap roles so they have to write some numbers and give you clues.

You are likely to have to support work with the decimal numbers with a place value board, place value cards, or with money amounts if you found that helped the child.

? What can you tell me about numbers with zeros in them?

? What would you like more practice with?



‘Write a number with four zeros and just two other single digits, six and eight. Are there lots of possible numbers or just a few?’