



Natural Equations



Use natural materials to represent numbers for some simple outdoor algebra.

Equipment

- Flat tarmac space
- Chalk
- Natural materials
- Paper, pencil and clipboard

Activity

Can you use different natural materials to design some equations to answer?

1. Collect some natural materials (try to gather at least 5 different objects)
2. Create a key to show 'how many' each object represents
For example – stick = 5, leaf = 2, rock = 8
3. Create some equations using your objects. Write them using the chalk
For example – stick x leaf =
4. Work out the answers to your equations
For example – stick x leaf = 10

You can put more than one of the same object together. This means you need to multiply them together before moving onto the next step.

For example – stick stick + rock = 33 (because stick x stick = 5 x 5 = 25)

Extension

Can you make some equations for a friend to answer?

Can you work out a friend's key if you are given an answered equation?

For example –

stick x leaf = 20 (What does the stick represent? What does the leaf represent?)

