Teaching Your Year 3 Child Place Value.

What is Place Value?

Place Value is the foundation for maths.

If your child has a strong understanding of place value, other maths strands such as addition and subtraction will be easier to learn.

Place Value is the understanding that each digit in a number has a value.

The value changes depending on where the digit is.

In Year 3, children work with numbers up to 1,000.

If they are given the number 947, they will need to understand that the digit 9 is 9 hundred and worth 900, the digit 4 is 4 tens and worth 40 and the digit 7 is 7 ones and is worth 7.

A strong understanding of place value will enable your child to understand the difference between the number 145 and 154.

If given the following numbers, 543, 534, 345 and 354 they will be able to order them using their place value knowledge. The best way to teach place value is using concrete materials.
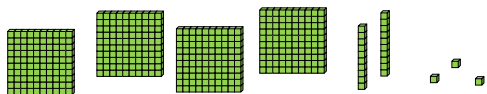
These can be in the form of the following:

Base 10/Deines
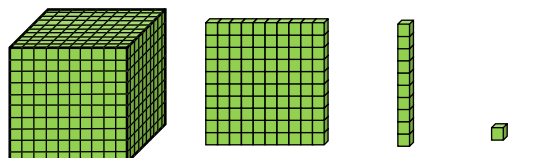
Thousand | Hundred | Ten | One

Blocks that represent 1,000s, 100s, 10s and 1s

4 hundreds, 2 tens and 3 ones = 423
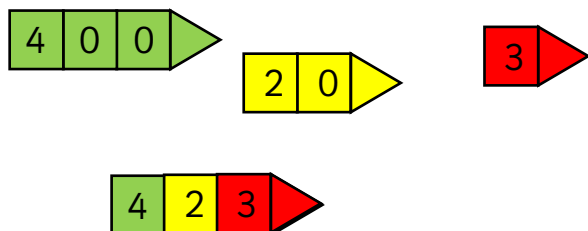
Place Value Chart
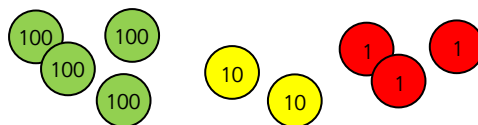
Thousands	Hundreds	Tens	Ones
	4	2	3

Arrow Cards

4 0 0

2 0

3

4 2 3

Place Value Counters

100 100 100 100   10 10   1 1 1

4 hundreds, 2 tens and 3 ones = 423

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Once in Year 3, children should be able to partition a number in different ways. For example, 243 can be partitioned into 2 hundreds, 4 tens and 3 ones, 2 hundreds, 3 tens and 13 ones, 1 hundreds, 14 tens, 3 ones etc.

When using concrete resources, your child can make the given number and systematically exchange a hundred for 10 tens, or a ten for 10 ones and move this over so they can still see that the number is still the same number but represented differently. See the images below for partitioning a two-digit number.
The same can be applied for a three-digit number using hundreds.

Step 1
Make the given number and partition it into tens and ones.
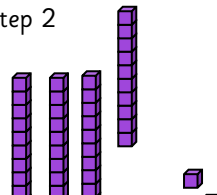
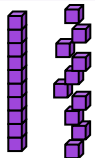Here we have the number 43 partitioned into 4 tens and 3 ones.
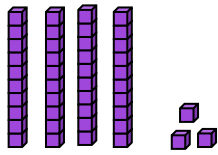
4 tens and 3 ones

Step 2
Exchange one of your tens for ten ones.
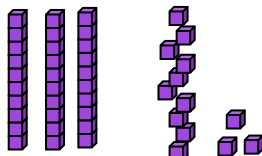
4 tens and 3 ones

Note: We are not adding or changing the number. It is still 43, we are swapping one ten for ten ones.

Step 3
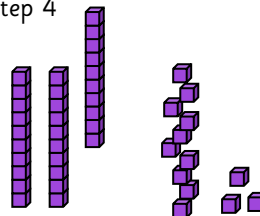Place the ten ones on the 'ones side'.

We now have 43 partitioned into 3 tens and 13 ones.
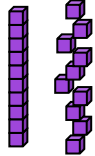Your child can check that it is still 43.

3 tens and 13 ones

Step 4
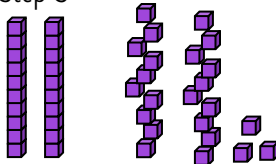Exchange another of your tens for ten ones.

3 tens and 13 ones

Note: We are not adding or changing the number. It is still 43, we are swapping one ten for ten ones.

Step 5
Place the ten ones on the 'ones side'.

We now have 43 partitioned into 2 tens and 23 ones.
Your child can check that it is still 43.

2 tens and 23 ones

Continue this until you have 43 ones.

A great game that can be played to help the understanding of exchange is 'Race to 100'.

The printable and instructions can be found in the files section of our Facebook Group.

But I don't have any equipment.

If you do not have any concrete resources, do not worry. Your child can draw out hundreds, tens and ones.
A square represents a hundred, a line represents a ten and a dot represents a one.

2 hundreds, 3 tens and 1 one
231

2 hundreds, 2 tens and 11 ones
231

Click here for **FREE** Place Value Worksheets.

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Questions to ask your child.

What's the same and what's different about 146 and 416?

Which number is greater, 756 or 765? Can you explain your answer?

Can you partition 434 into hundreds, tens and ones?

Can you partition 434 in other ways?

Give me a number with 4 tens and 6 hundreds.

Give me a number with 7 ones and 9 hundreds.

What number am I thinking of? It has 6 hundreds, 3 tens and 5 ones. Swap the hundreds, tens and ones around to ensure understanding It has 7 ones 4 hundreds and 6 tens.

What number am I thinking of? It has 11 tens and 5 ones.

I have 3 tens, 15 ones and 1 hundred. I have the number…

Can you make/tell me a three-digit number with fewer than 8 ones?

Possible responses.

They both have the digits 1,4 and 6. The digits mean different things, in 146, the 1 represents 100. In 416, the 1 represents a 10.

765 because it has more tens than 756. It has 6 tens and 756 has 5 tens.

4 hundreds, 3 tens and 4 ones.

3 hundreds, 13 tens and 4 ones
2 hundreds, 23 tens and 4 ones
4 hundreds, 2 tens and 14 ones

640 - 649

907, 917, 927, 937, 947, 957, 967, 977, 987, 997

635.
467. If your child says 746, use a place value chart so they can visualise the order of hundreds, tens and ones.

115

145

100 - 107	500 – 507	800 - 807
200 - 207	600 - 607	900 - 907
300 - 307	700 - 707	

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