

Birds in Trees

Intended learning: this activity relates to the partitioning of numbers.

Materials: tree sheet (a sheet with many pairs of trees on it).

Description:

- Individual or pairs.
- The teacher sets the scene by telling how many birds live in the two trees which are displayed. For example, there are five birds in the two trees.
- The students' task is to find as many different ways the five birds can be in the two trees.
- After the whole class demonstration, children work out the different combinations on their own sheets.
- On completion (or after a given time) the teacher leads a discussion about the students' results.
- This activity can be repeated for different numbers of birds.

Notes: oranges (counters) can be used instead of birds.