

# I can do *more* maths with sweeties



Take a whole packet of sweeties and put them on a table.

Count how many there are.

Now, divide the sweeties into equal piles.

You can try piles of 2, or 3 or 5 and so on.

Sometimes the sweeties made piles of three with none left over. Sometimes they made piles of two with none left over. Sometimes they made piles of five with none left over. Sometimes the sweeties didn't go into equal piles at all. **Mummy says that if the sweeties can't be made into equal piles, then the total number is called a PRIME NUMBER. Prime numbers are special.**

You can use a different number of skittles to start with, so you can find out which numbers are prime numbers and which aren't.

I found that 5, 7, 11, 13, 17, 19 and 23 were prime numbers.

I also noticed that all the prime numbers were odd numbers. This is because all even numbers can be put into equal piles of two. But I found that not all odd numbers are prime numbers (we tried out 9 and found that it made three piles of three).

I think there are probably lots more ways to do maths with sweeties that I haven't worked out yet.

