

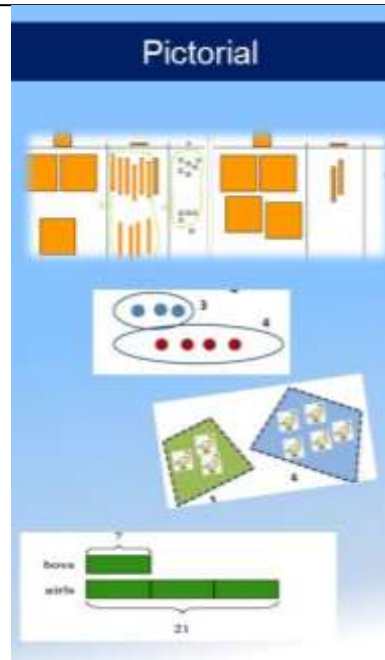
Concrete-Pictorial-Abstract

The concrete-pictorial-abstract approach, based on research by psychologist Jerome Bruner, suggests that there are three steps (or representations) necessary for pupils to develop understanding of a concept. Reinforcement is achieved by going back and forth between these representations.

Concrete: pupils should have the opportunity to use and handle concrete objects to help them understand what they are doing.



Pictorial: pupils should build on this concrete approach by using pictorial representations. These representations can then be used to reason and solve problems.



Abstract: with the foundations firmly laid, pupils should be able to move to an abstract approach using numbers, symbols and key concepts with confidence.

