

The (Kiwi) Number Stick™ in comparison with other Teaching Aids (Manipulatives)	The Number Stick						
	Unifix/Multilink/Centicube	Slavonic Abacus	Counters/Beads	Tens Frame	100S Bd	Dice	
FUNCTIONS							
not only as a <i>Tens Frame</i> but as a frame of any number up to 10 (or to 20 with joined sticks). It is unique as a MULTI-FRAME math manipulative.	✓						
as a unique <i>visual number line</i> . It relates to children's hands, to standard Number Lines, and to the Slavonic Abacus)	✓						
uniquely generates the algebraic or 'number family' patterns that are at the heart of a ' <i>number family</i> '* approach to early Numeracy. It shows both the addition-subtraction and multiplication-division members (bonds) within families.	✓						
uniquely functions as a flexible dice, i.e. a dice of any 'size' – from just 2 or 3 to >20.	✓						
unique 'Subtraction Dice™' - sets basic subtraction problems and provides the answers	✓						
provides a variety of math models							
addition-subtraction models	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
multiplication-division models	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	
skip-counting & multiplication-table models	✓		✓	✓		✓	
re-naming/part-whole models	✓		✓				
place value and calculation models	✓	✓					
flexible base models	✓						
APPLICATIONS							
counting, counting on, number recognition	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
basic number facts (all areas)	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	
calculation and place value	✓	✓	✓	✓			
statistics, probability	✓						✓
patterns and relations; algebra	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
use in a wide variety of games	✓			✓			✓
OTHER							
tool and toy, visual, tactile, motivating	✓			✓			
inexpensive – so children can have their own.	✓			✓			✓
<i>transparent operation</i> , c.f. 'black box' calculators	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

* **Systematic** use of Number-Family methods and activities enables children to build a **part-whole basic fact knowledge base** that **facilitates strategic and part-whole thinking**.

'Our schools are moving more and more towards the re-introduction of hands on resources... Students will want to explore number with the 'Number Stick' because it's simple to use, the results are clearly defined and the children have a tremendous amount of fun along the way. From the teacher's point of view **through its range of printed material the Number Stick certainly offers busy teachers the opportunity of delivering well constructed lessons which fit superbly with the curriculum.**' MEGAN MCGAW, AUCKLAND