

EUROVISION  
SONG CONTEST  
UNITED KINGDOM  
LIVERPOOL 2023

# EUROLEARN

MATHS RESOURCE PACK

# Eurovision and Maths



The Eurovision Song Contest is an annual event which brings music and maths into homes across the world. Maths? Well, yes, the songs are a big part of the evening but so is the voting. Many people will sit and try and work out how many points particular countries will need in order to win.

In fact, if you think about it, elements of maths can be found throughout Eurovision- in the rhythms found in songs, in the measurements needed to build the sets, in the statistics that journalists will quote when talking about the different entries.

Liverpool Counts is a campaign which encourages positive messages around maths. As part of the Liverpool Counts Quality Mark we encourage schools to explore cultural events through a mathematical lens.

We'd like to encourage schools and families to use the 2023 contest as an opportunity to explore where they can find maths in Eurovision.



## About This Pack

This pack is inspired by some of the amazing songs that have been entered into the Eurovision Song Contest since it began in 1956. Each song has inspired an activity, many of them open-ended, that encourages pupils to think mathematically.

Adapt these ideas to meet the needs of your pupils and use them as a jumping off point. We know that you'll also have your own brilliant ideas. We'd love to know how you include maths as part of your celebration of the Eurovision Song Contest. Drop us an email at [admin@liverpoollearningpartnership.com](mailto:admin@liverpoollearningpartnership.com) or tag us on social media @LLPartnership and use the hashtags #LiverpoolCounts and #EuroLearn

## Resource Pack Contents

Page	Song and Year	Focus	Age Range
3	Nel Blu Dipinto Di Blu: 1958	Data Handling – UK Singles Chart	KS2/3+
5	Waterloo: 1974	Throwing a Party	EYFS/KS1
7	Making Your Mind Up: 1981	Logic Puzzles	KS2/3+
12	We Are The Winners: 2006	Data Handling- Eurovision Winners	KS2/3+
19	Flying The Flag (For You): 2007	Shape and Space- Flag Investigation	All Phases
20	Think About Things: 2020	Mathematical Thinking- Maths is Everywhere	All Phases



## **Nel Blu Dipinto Di Blu (Volare)- Domenico Modugno Italy, 1958- 3rd place**

The most covered Eurovision Song Contest song is Domenico Modugno's Nel Blu Di Pinto Di Blu, also known as Volare. The song has been covered by famous stars such as Dean Martin, Cliff Richard, David Bowie and many more. It has appeared in the UK singles charts 6 times. Interestingly, in 1958 4 different artists entered the charts with this same song.

### **Data Handling: UK Singles Charts- KS2/3+**

<https://www.officialcharts.com/> is a great source of information that can be used for statistics and data handling. The website is a searchable archive of the UK singles and album charts.

Provide the pupils with the information relating to Volare. They can use this information to answer questions and can develop their own questions.

#### **Possible Questions:**

What does this tell us about the song and its popularity? Which do you think was the most popular version of the song? Why do you think this?

Using the information, can you work out what date each version of the song dropped out of the UK singles charts?

What is the ratio of songs known as Volare in the charts to those using the full title?

What fraction of the songs use the full title?

What is the mean and median chart position of Volare? What is the range of chart positions?

## Nel Blu Dipinto Di Blu (Volare) in the UK Singles Charts

Date	Title	Artist	Peak Chart Position	Weeks on Chart	Weeks at Number One
04/09/1958	Volare	Dean Martin	02	14	00
11/09/1958	Volare	Domenico Modugno	10	12	00
09/10/1958	Volare (Nel Blu Dipinto Di Blu)	Marino Marini and his Quartet	13	07	00
30/10/1958	Volare	Charlie Drake	28	02	00
07/09/1960	Volare	Bobby Rydell	22	06	00
09/12/1989	Volare	The Gypsy Kings	86	04	00

Chart information taken from

<https://www.officialcharts.com/search/albums/volare/>



## Waterloo- ABBA

### Sweden, 1974- 1st place

In 1974 the winning Eurovision entry was Waterloo by ABBA. Since then, no Eurovision party has been complete without playing Waterloo!

There are lots of maths skills that can be developed and practised whilst getting ready to hold a Eurovision party. Here's a few ideas to start you off.

## Eurovision Party: EYFS/KS1

### Party Hat Design

- How can you create a party hat from a circle? Using colours from the flags of Eurovision countries, could you decorate the hat using a repeated pattern?
- Could you design a different type of party hat? Count the different types of decorations you add to your hat.



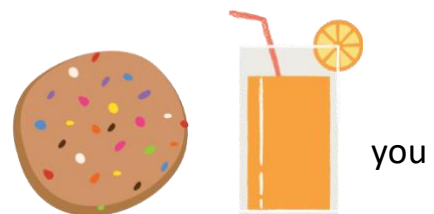
### Bunting and Paper Chains

- Can you use colour to create bunting paper chains with a repeated pattern? Can your friend identify the pattern you've used? Can they continue the pattern?
- Bunting often uses the shape of an isosceles triangle. Can you create bunting using other shapes? What patterns can you create by varying the shapes you use?



### Snacks and Drinks

- Can you follow a recipe to create a simple biscuit snack or a juice drink/smoothie? Talk about how are using measurement to create the drink.



- Provide children with different ways of decorating a biscuit: eg smarties, chocolate buttons etc. If you are allowed 3 decorations, how could you decorate your biscuit?
- Can you create your own drink: eg 2 cups of apple juice, 1 cup of lemonade? How many cups of liquid went into the drink in total? How could we write this as a calculation?

## Maths Party Fun

- Play 'Maths Pass The Parcel' but between each layer of maths calculation or a number sequence to continue



paper is a

$$3 + 2 =$$

$$1, 2, 3 \dots$$

- Have a Maths Karaoke session. Sing your favourite maths songs and nursery rhymes together.
- Play a Eurovision song and give the children a key word: e.g. 'Waterloo'. They need to count how many times they hear the word. You might want to play just part of the song or all of the song.

## Eurovision Voting

- A big part of Eurovision is the voting. Play the children a few classic Eurovision hits and get them to vote for their favourites. You could use counters or bricks to help show the votes visually. The votes could be recorded as a tally chart or a graph.



# **Making Your Mind Up- Bucks Fizz United Kingdom, 1981: 1st place**

Making Your Mind Up was Bucks Fizz's debut single. Following the win, the song reached No 1 in the UK singles chart and eventually sold over four million copies. Making Your Mind Up is a Eurovision classic and the title was used for the name of the BBC's selection show that picked the UK entry to Eurovision between 2004-2007.

## **Logic and Reasoning**

Logic and reasoning are very important when it comes to solving math problems. They help us to think clearly, make sense of information and come up with accurate answers. Logic involves using common sense and clear thinking to make sense of a problem, while reasoning involves using evidence and information to come to a conclusion (and make our mind up!!)

Logic puzzles are a great way to challenge your brain and develop critical thinking skills. In a logic puzzle, you are given a set of clues and asked to use deduction and elimination to arrive at a solution. The goal is to figure out a set of relationships or conditions based on the given information. Using a chart to help solve the problem might help. The following puzzles are suitable for pupils from KS2 upwards and increase in difficulty.



# Eurovision Logic Puzzle 1

There are five Eurovision acts performing in the final, each from a different country: Italy, Spain, Sweden, Greece, and Germany.

Each act has a different color as their primary costume color: red, blue, green, yellow, and pink.

Each act has a different musical genre: pop, rock, electronic, jazz, and country.

The act from Spain is wearing a red costume.

The electronic act is not from Italy.

The jazz act is wearing a blue costume.

The act from Greece is not wearing a pink costume.

The rock act is from Germany.

The pop act is not from Sweden.

The act from Italy is wearing a yellow costume.

Can you work out which act is wearing what colour and what genre their song is?



## Eurovision Logic Puzzle 2

There are six Eurovision acts performing in the final, each from a different country: France, Ireland, Norway, Poland, Ukraine, and United Kingdom.

Each act has a different musical genre: pop, rock, folk, hip-hop, classical, and reggae.

Each act has a different type of stage prop: microphone, guitar, piano, trumpet, drum set, and saxophone.

The act from Norway is not playing the saxophone.

The classical act is not from Ukraine.

The pop act is from France.

The act with the guitar prop is not from Ireland.

The rock act is playing the drum set.

The act from Poland is playing the trumpet.

The reggae act is not from the United Kingdom.

Can you determine the musical genre and stage prop for each Eurovision act?



## Eurovision Logic Puzzle 3

Six countries are competing in the Eurovision Song Contest: Belgium, Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Netherlands, and Portugal.

Each country has a different Eurovision song title: "Come Along", "Flying High", "Lost in Dreams", "Midnight Sun", "Rising Star", and "Wildfire".

Each country has a different Eurovision song style: ballad, dance-pop, indie, jazz, rock, and techno.

Each country has a different lead singer: Ann, Erik, Janne, Maria, Nina, and Pedro.

The country with the jazz song is not represented by Nina.

Maria is not representing Denmark.

Ann is singing the ballad.

Erik is not representing Portugal.

Pedro's song is not "Rising Star".

The indie song is represented by the Netherlands.

Can you work out the song titles, singers and song style or each act performing in the Eurovision Song Contest?



# Puzzle Solutions

## Puzzle One

Country	Costume Colour	Musical Genre
Italy	Yellow	Pop
Spain	Red	Jazz
Sweden	Green	Electronic
Greece	Blue	Country
Germany	Pink	Rock

## Puzzle Two

Country	Musical Genre	Prop
France	Pop	Microphone
Ireland	Folk	Saxophone
Norway	Hip-hop	Piano
Poland	Classical	Trumpet
Ukraine	Reggae	Guitar
United Kingdom	Rock	Drum Set

## Puzzle Three

Country	Song Title	Song Style	Lead Singer
Belgium	Come Along	Techno	Janne
Denmark	Wildfire	Rock	Erik
Finland	Flying High	Dance pop	Nina
Iceland	Midnight Sun	Jazz	Pedro
Netherlands	Lost in Dreams	Indie	Ann
Portugal	Rising Star	Ballad	Maria



## **We Are The Winners- LT United Lithuania, 2006- 6th place**

Despite the name of this song, LT United did not win the Eurovision Song Contest in 2006. In fact, they came 6th. So far Lithuania has never won the Eurovision Song Contest, although they have reached the top ten on the leaderboard 3 times. But... who have been the winners?

### **Statistics- Eurovision Winners**

A huge part of the Eurovision Song Contest is the scoring element of the night. Each country has a jury made up of music industry professionals and also the public gets to vote for their favorite songs. The scoring system is based on a combination of these two types of votes, with each country giving points from 1 to 12 to their top ten favourite songs. The country with the most points at the end of the competition wins!

#### **Resources:**

Eurovision Winners by Amount of Wins worksheet, Top 5 Winners worksheet

#### **Possible Questions:**

How else could you display this information? Can you turn this chart into a bar graph that shows the number of wins each country has had?

There have been 66 contests. 65 of these had one winner each. Can you find out in which year there was a 4 way tie? (The rules changed after this year to allow for a tie-breaker situation).

What questions can you develop using this chart or your graph?

Look at the lists of top 5 winners. What information can you find out from these lists? What questions can you develop based on these lists?

Look at the scores from 2022. How could you rearrange or display this information to make it easier to understand? What was the median/mean/mode score? What was the range of scores?

You can find lots of statistics and information on the official Eurovision website:  
<https://eurovision.tv/>

Number of wins	Country	Years won
7	Ireland	1970, 1980, 1987, 1992, 1993, 1994, 1996
6	Sweden	1974, 1984, 1991, 1999, 2012, 2015
5	France	1958, 1960, 1962, 1969, 1977
5	Luxembourg	1961, 1965, 1972, 1973, 1983
5	United Kingdom	1967, 1969, 1976, 1981, 1997
5	Netherlands	1957, 1959, 1969, 1975, 2019
4	Israel	1978, 1979, 1998, 2018
3	Norway	1985, 1995, 2009

3	Denmark	1963, 2000, 2013
3	Italy	1964, 1990, 2021
3	Ukraine	2004, 2016, 2022
2	Spain	1968, 1969
2	Switzerland	1956, 1988
2	Germany	1982, 2010
2	Austria	1966, 2014
1	Monaco	1971
1	Belgium	1986
1	Yugoslavia	1989

1	Estonia	2001
1	Latvia	2002
1	Turkey	2003
1	Greece	2005
1	Finland	2006
1	Serbia	2007
1	Russia	2008
1	Azerbaijan	2011
1	Portugal	2017

## Top 5 Winners

This table shows top five winning songs by the percentage from the all votes cast.

Year	Country	Artist	Song	Points	Percentage of all points cast	Percentage of maximum possible points
1964	Italy	Gigliola Cinquetti	"Non ho l'età"	49	34.03%	65.33%
1957	Netherlands	Corry Brokken	"Net als toen"	31	31.00%	34.44%
1967	United Kingdom	Sandie Shaw	"Puppet on a String"	47	27.65%	29.38%
1962	France	Isabelle Aubret	"Un premier amour"	26	27.08%	57.78%
1958	France	André Claveau	"Dors, mon amour"	27	27.00%	30.00%

This table shows top five winning songs by the percentage from the maximum possible score a song can achieve.

Contest	Country	Artist	Song	Points	Percentage of all points cast	Percentage of maximum possible points
1973	Luxembourg	Anne-Marie David	"Tu te reconnaîtras"	129	14.05%	80.63%
1976	United Kingdom	Brotherhood of Man	"Save Your Kisses for Me"	164	15.71%	80.39%
1982	Germany	Nicole	"Ein bißchen Frieden"	161	15.42%	78.92%
1997	United Kingdom	Katrina and the Waves	"Love Shine a Light"	227	15.66%	78.82%
2009	Norway	Alexander Rybak	"Fairytale"	387	15.89%	78.66%

# 2022 Eurovision Winners

R/O[150]	Country[72]	Artist[151]	Song[151]	Language(s)	Points[151]	Place[151]
1	Czech Republic	We Are Domi	"Lights Off"	English	38	22[f]
2	Romania	WRS	"Llámame"	English, Spanish	65	18
3	Portugal	Maro	"Saudade, saudade"	English, Portuguese	207	9
4	Finland	The Rasmus	"Jezebel"	English	38	21[f]
5	Switzerland	Marius Bear	"Boys Do Cry"	English	78	17
6	France	Alvan and Ahez	"Fulenn"	Breton	17	24
7	Norway	Subwoolfer	"Give That Wolf a Banana"	English	182	10
8	Armenia	Rosa Linn	"Snap"	English	61	20
9	Italy	Mahmood and Blanco	"Brividi"	Italian	268	6
10	Spain	Chanel	"SloMo"	Spanish, English	459	3
11	Netherlands	S10	"De diepte"	Dutch	171	11
12	Ukraine	Kalush Orchestra	"Stefania" (Стефанія)	Ukrainian	631	1
13	Germany	Malik Harris	"Rockstars"	English	6	25
14	Lithuania	Monika Liu	"Sentimentai"	Lithuanian	128	14
15	Azerbaijan	Nadir Rustamli	"Fade to Black"	English	106	16
16	Belgium	Jérémie Makiese	"Miss You"	English	64	19
17	Greece	Amanda Georgiadi Tenfjord	"Die Together"	English	215	8
18	Iceland	Systur	"Með hækkandi sól"	Icelandic	20	23
19	Moldova	Zdob și Zdrub and Advahov Brothers	"Trenulețul"	Romanian, English	253	7
20	Sweden	Cornelia Jakobs	"Hold Me Closer"	English	438	4
21	Australia	Sheldon Riley	"Not the Same"	English	125	15
22	United Kingdom	Sam Ryder	"Space Man"	English	466	2
23	Poland	Ochman	"River"	English	151	12
24	Serbia	Konstrakta	"In corpore sano"	Serbian, Latin	312	5
25	Estonia	Stefan	"Hope"	English	141	13



## Flying The Flag (For You) - Scooch \*

UK, 2007- 22nd place



Flags can be seen everywhere at the Eurovision Song Contest. They are often held aloft and waved by audience members, they feature on the graphics that introduces each contestant and since 2013 each grand final has started with a flag parade.

## Shape and Space: Flag Investigation

### Resources:

Images of flags (download [2023 Eurovision countries flags here](#)), mirrors, tracing paper, 2D shapes, protractors or angle measures

### Key questions:

What shapes can you spot? Are they regular or irregular shapes?

How might you sort the flags? Can your friend work out how you sorted them? Can you describe the angles featured in the flag? Can you estimate them? Can you measure them?

Does the flag have any lines of reflective symmetry? What about rotational symmetry?

What fractions can you spot? Can you express them as a decimal or a percentage?

Can you find any parallel and/or perpendicular lines?

What questions or calculations can you create for your friends based on this flag?

\*If sharing this song with pupils, we recommend using the Blue Peter version as it removes the double-entendres: <https://youtu.be/RWxlq2Gva6o>



# Think About Things- Daði Freyr Iceland, 2020- Contest Cancelled

Daði Freyr wrote this song about his daughter when she was a baby and how he wanted to know what she thought about different things.

When we take the time to think about things, it is possible to notice maths through the different aspects of life. We use maths every day but don't always notice that we're doing it. We often underestimate our ability to think and work mathematically because we don't realise how often we are using those skills.

## Thinking About Things: Maths Is Everywhere

This activity provides pupils with pictures of Liverpool, this year's Eurovision host city ([download photos from here](#)), as stimulus for identifying the maths around us. It is open ended and could be used throughout all age ranges.

Aspects of maths we can consider:

NUMBER: counting, numerals

SHAPE AND SPACE: 2D shape, 3D shape, line, position and directionz

DATA HANDLING AND STATISTICS: charts and tables we come across every day

PATTERNS AND RELATIONSHIPS: patterns are all around- where can you spot them?

PROBLEM SOLVING: what problems can you think of using the picture as stimulus

Can you come up with questions for your friends? Which can you come up with a definitive answer for using the information available in the picture? Which questions would you need more information to answer?

If we add numbers or figures to add context to the pictures, what other questions could we develop and what calculations could we solve?

Try spotting maths around your school or local area. Take photos and share them with your class to discuss where you can spot maths in them.

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