Criteria for planning and assessing subitising

Subitising	What adults could do	What adults could provide	Behaviours a child could demonstrate to show understanding
Notice	 help children to recognise groups of objects and marks in familiar positions use everyday materials with consistent grouping of marks, such as playing cards, dominoes and dice, to play games action songs with quantities up to five play matching games to point out groups of marks that are the same play snap model guessing a quantity up to four in different contexts, such as snack time or pencils in a pot reaffirm children's guesses by modelling accurate counting, pointing to each mark until children no longer require this level of support play games that enable children to develop their visual discrimination and memory, such as Kim's Game, so that children can notice what is the same, different or missing 	 everyday materials with consistent grouping of marks, such as dice, playing cards, dominoes number lines and floor tiles, with dots corresponding to numerals different types of dice, for indoor and outdoor use large and small playing cards that represent quantity to 10 varied sets of dominoes frequent interactive displays, which use different materials to present quantities up to five in a familiar arrangement egg boxes, muffin trays and candleholder, as everyday examples of regular representations of number coloured objects that can be arranged in small groups, e.g. counters, compare bears 	 children will have a go at guessing a number of marks or objects children will be able to instantly recognise and say the correct quantity without counting marks or objects children will begin to point out and independently seek familiar arrangements of groups of objects or marks

Review and evaluate

Behaviours a child could demonstrate to show understanding:

- children will have a go at guessing a number of marks or objects
- children will be able to instantly recognise and say the correct quantity without counting marks or objects
- children will begin to point out and independently seek familiar arrangements of groups of objects or marks

Observation:

Evie said, "I can see six eggs in the box."

Evaluation:

Evie is pointing out a familiar pattern of six, like on dice.

Observation:

Jude said, "There are only two apples left."

Evaluation:

Jude is 28 months old and instantly recognised only two apples in a bowl of fruit.

Observation:

Oliver guessed there were three bananas in the group. He then said, "That looks like three bananas."

Evaluation:

Oliver is guessing sensible amounts before counting.

Observation:

Leo said, "There are three lids."

Evaluation:

Leo is able to instantly recognise three; he did not need to count them.