



Year 6

## Computing

## Unit 6.8 - Binary

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To know what the terms binary and denary mean and how they relate to the number system, the digital system and the terms base-10 and base-2

To relate binary to the on and off states of electrical switches.

To convert numbers from decimal to binary. To convert numbers from binary to decimal.

To represent states of object in their own

program using binary.



## Key Resources



Key Vocabulary		
Base 10	The number system commonly used in day-to-	
	day life. Using the digits 0,1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8,9 to	
	make. Also known as decimal or denary.	
Base 2	A number system based only on the numerals 0	
	and 1. Also known as binary. The digits 1 and 0	
	used in binary reflect the on and off states of	
	transistors.	
Binary	See Base-2.	
Bit	A single 0 or 1 in the binary system.	
Byte	8 bits.	
Decimal	See Base-10.	
<u>Denary</u>	See Base-10.	
<u>Digit</u>	A single integer used to show a number	
Gigabyte (GB)	1024 MB.	
Integer	Any whole number. This includes negative and	
	positive numbers but not fractions or decimals.	
Kilobyte (KB)	1024 bytes.	
Machine code	The code that signals to a computer which	
	transistors should be on or off. Machine code is	
	written in binary.	
Megabyte (MB)	1024 KB.	
<u>Nibble</u>	4 bits.	
<u>Switch</u>	A component that can be one of two states at	
	any time: on or off.	
Terabyte (TB)	1024 GB	
<b>Transistor</b>	A tiny switch that is activated by the electronic	
	signals it receives.	
<u>Variable</u>	A variable is used in programming to keep track	
	of things that can change while a program is	
	running. A variable must have a name. The	
	value of the variable is the information to store.	

Key Questions		
How does binary relate to the programs that you use or create?	In a computer everything is translated into binary stored by on and off switches that pass electronic signals that the computer interprets. It can then pass the correct signals to the components of the computer such as the sound card to make the requested sound. Or graphics card to make images appear on the screen.	
How does binary relate to computer memory?	A single 0 or 1 is called a bit. The word comes from <u>B</u> inary Dig <u>it.</u> The bigger the program, the more bits are used so more memory space is taken up. For example, 1 byte is 8 bits, 1 megabyte (Mb) or 8,388,608 bits, 1 gigabyte (GB) is 8,589,934,592 bits!	
How would you write the numbers 0 to 10 in binary?	0, 1, 10, 11, 100,101,110,111,1000, 1001, 1010.	



