



MSL ETB & Fahy NS Mayo

Young/Old - problem solving together!

Describe your maths eyes initiative/project

- This programme happened under MSL ETB Family Learning funding. We work with local DEIS schools and on this occasion with Fahy NS we created a group where adults and kids developed their problem solving skills together.
- Each week we worked on new challenges from the NRICH and YouCubed resources. We shared the ways we 'saw' the problems, worked through trial and exploration, identified patterns, tried to improve on our previous solution, described our solutions in words, numbers, and sometimes even generalised solutions as algebraic equations. We shared tricks to improve our mental maths and shared the way we visualised the problems to improve our maths eyes.
- One of our entries actually developed organically from an activity. They were identifying square numbers in a multiplication table and naturally began colouring. Resulted in a nice clear illustration of square numbers.

Describe your favourite part of doing this project

- Parents: learning new methods to do maths; kids talking about maths outside of school.
- Kids: Fun; Working together.
- Tutor: Seeing the personalities develop - confidence building, problem solving techniques improving, learning speed isn't always the best solution