Investigation NMCC 2014-15

Staircase of Sticks

The picture shows a figure that can be expanded an infinite number of times.



A Subject Report

You should investigate

- a) the perimeter of the figures, measured in number of sticks
- b) the number of sticks required for each figure

Find a relation between the figure number and both the number of sticks needed for the

perimeter (a) and the number of sticks needed for the whole figure (b).

- 1. Solve the problem in as many ways as you can think of.
- 2. Make a joint subject report that carefully explains how you reached your various results.
- 3. Compare and contrast the different solutions. What is the same? What is different?
- 4. Which method do you think is the most efficient/effective? Give a reason for your answer.

B Exhibition and presentation

- a) Make your own task using either two- or three-dimensional figures that grow according to a given pattern.
- b) Find a pattern in nature, art, clothing design, architecture or similar and explain how the pattern is constructed.

C Progress log

The progress log should describe how the class has worked through tasks A and B.