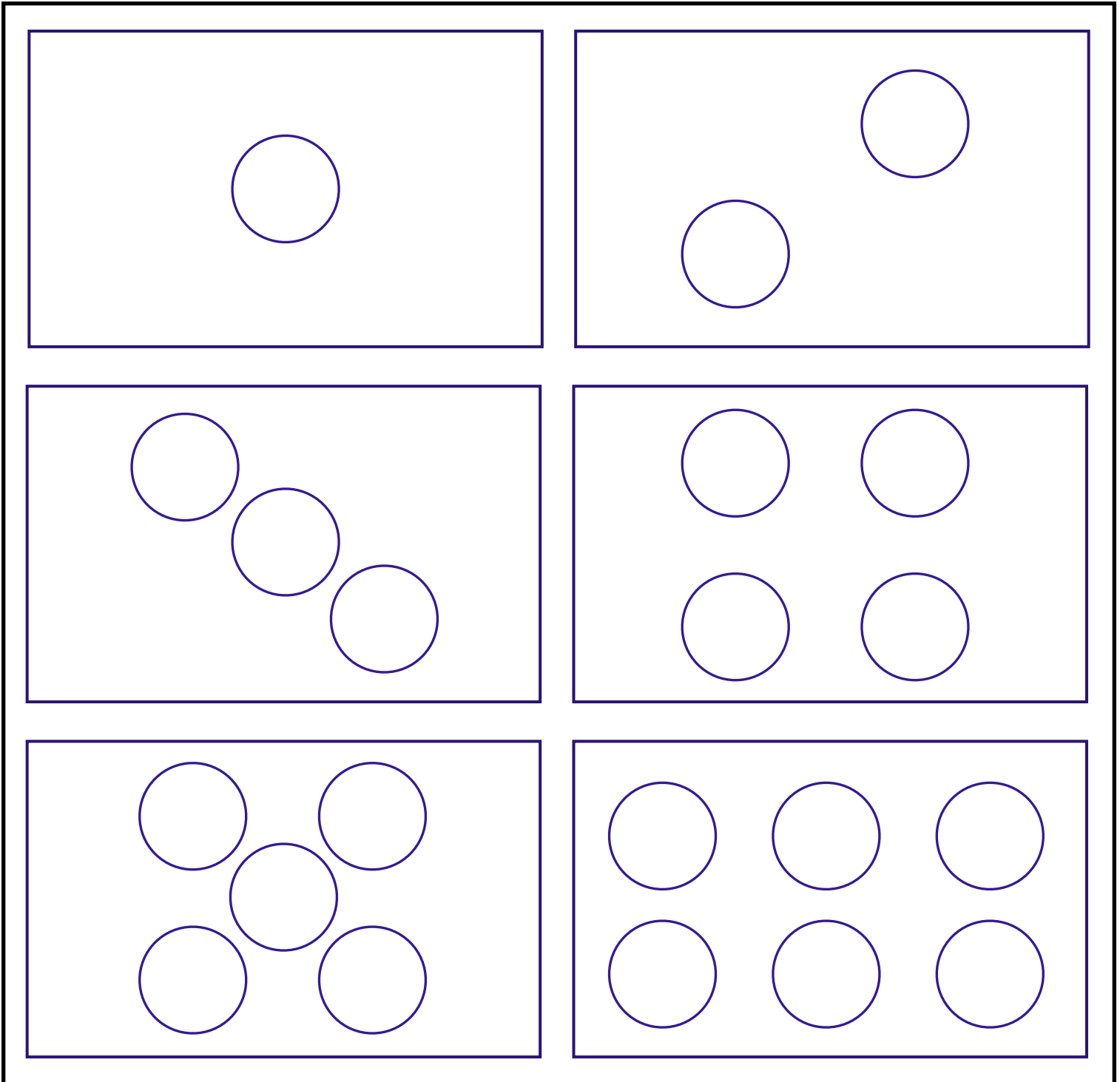


# Smaller numbers inside larger numbers



A game for 2 players

## RULES:

Each player takes charge of either the odd numbers or the even numbers and takes turns to throw a 1-2-3 spot die. On your turn, cover (or colour) the matching pattern from the die on any one of your dot pattern cards.

[E.g. a throw of 3 can be matched by 3 circles in the numbers 3, 5 or 6, but nowhere else.]

The game ends when one player completes 2 of their 3 number cards and the winner is the player with most circles covered (or coloured) at that time.

# SMALLER NUMBERS INSIDE LARGER NUMBERS GAME

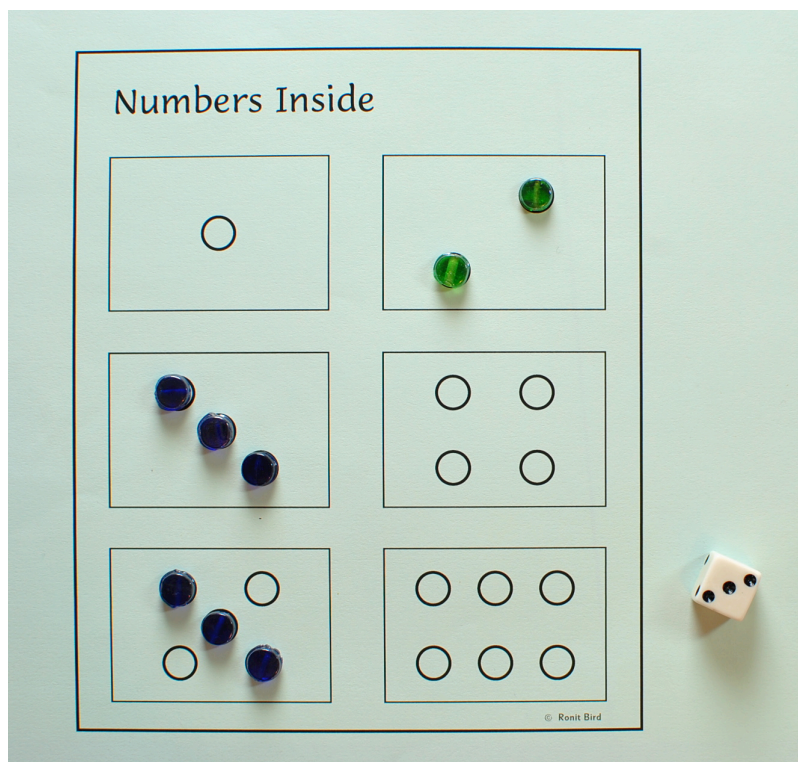
*A slightly different (and longer) version of this game, together with a demonstration video, can be found in Chapter 2 of my ebook 'Exploring Numbers Through Dot Patterns'.*

## Teaching points:

- ◆ The game is designed to make children see that numbers can be built out of smaller numbers. Numbers are not necessarily built out of a succession of ones.
- ◆ It gives children practice in noticing and recognising the dot patterns of the number 1 – 6.
- ◆ It forces players to switch their focus from a whole amount that is built of smaller components, to the components that contribute to a larger quantity, and back again.

## Equipment needed to play the game:

- ♣ A playing board (above) between two players.
- ♣ A 1-2-3 spot die. (You can buy one, or adapt an ordinary die by attaching and labelling small stickers on top of three faces.)
- ♣ Counters (or nuggets, or shells, or small coins, etc), all of the same colour and size, to fit the circles on the board. Alternatively, players can use pencils or pens to colour the spots on the paper board as they play.



*This photo is of a game in progress. I am playing on the odd numbers. My opponent, playing on the even numbers, threw 2 when it was his turn. I have just thrown, and acted upon, a throw of 3. My first throw was also 3. If I were to throw 3 again, I would have to miss the turn. But if I were to throw either 1 or 2 next time, I would win the game (or, at least, this round).*