Kit’s Clever Computing: Super Spreadsheets!

About 15 minutes. Grown-up tip: Ask your child to imagine they are tracking their toy collection in a spreadsheet.

Spreadsheets are like digital grid paper! Each box is called a cell. You can add numbers by typing =SUM(A1:A3). Try it: If cell A1 has £5 and A2 has £2, the total in A3 is £7.

- **A spreadsheet is made of columns (going down) and rows (going across). What do we call the individual box where they meet?**
- **Data is information we put into a spreadsheet. Names, prices, and dates are all types of data.**
- **A formula is a clever instruction we give the computer to solve a maths puzzle automatically.**
- **You can use a spreadsheet to make a chart. This helps us see patterns in our data, like how much pocket money we save.**
- **If you change a number in a cell, the computer will automatically update the total for you. No need for a calculator!**

> *Did you know? Did you know? The first digital spreadsheet was invented in 1979! It helped people organise lists of numbers much faster than using a pen and paper. Today, scientists like Bea use them to track how many hedgehogs visit the garden each week.*

Key vocabulary: Cell · Row · Column · Formula · Data · Grid