How To Use the Rekenrek - Script

Exploring the Basic Functionality

Related Screen Picture	Script
What is a Rekenrek?	Rekenreks are arithmetic racks. They commonly have two rods of beads. Each rod has ten beads, five of one colour followed by five of another colour.
Representing Numbers	Numbers are represented by sliding beads to the left. Beads can be moved one at a time, in this case to represent one and then two. or in groups so we now see a representation of 7
Change the Number of Rods	Use the plus icon to increase the number of rods.
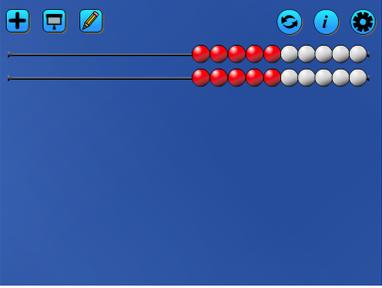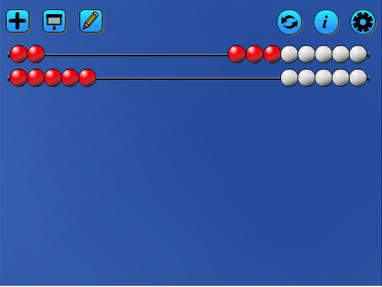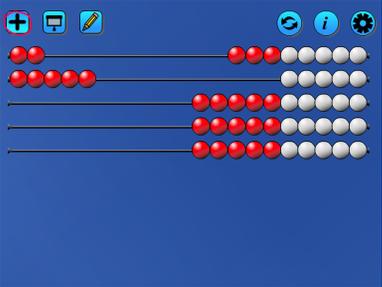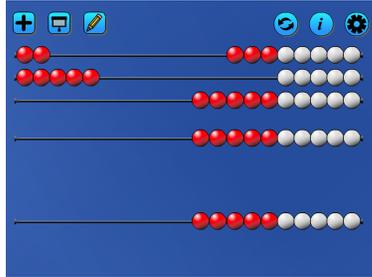
Reposition the Rods	Drag the rod to a new position.
Overlapping Rods	Rods can overlap. This might help us to compare the values represented on each rod.
Reset Button	The reset button will return the tool to its starting state.
Shade - right side	Let's show a new value on the rekenrek. For example, to represent the number 11 we can show a double plus one. This button will open a shade that covers the right half of the rekenrek beads. This can help us to focus on selected beads.
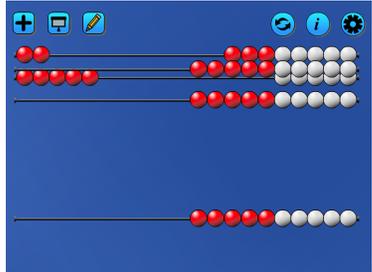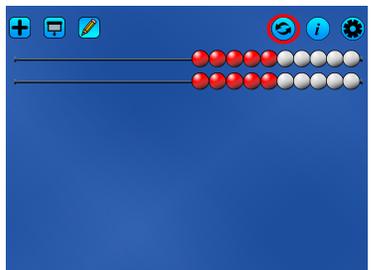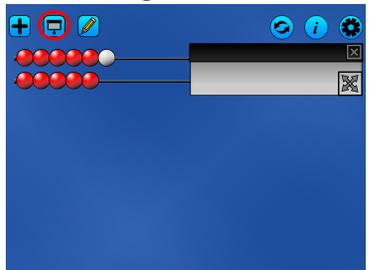
Shade - left side 	Press the icon again to open a second shade that covers the left half of the rekenreks
Resize the Shade 	Let's add some more rows. Use the resizer widget to adjust the size of the shade.
Reposition the Shade 	Drag the shade to a new location when required.
Overlap Shades 	The shades can also overlap. Close the shades to see all the beads and wires.
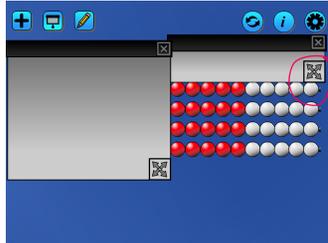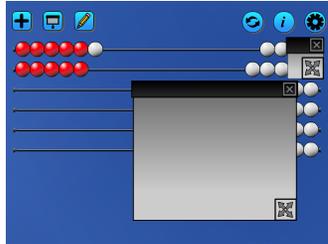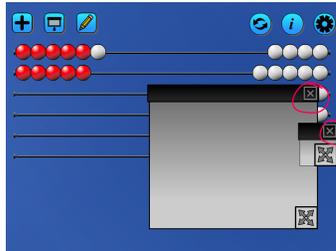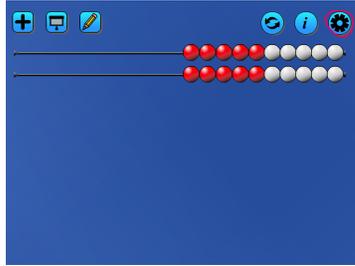
Settings 	Press the settings button to customize the tool and change various settings.
Reposition Rods 	Use the black arrows to reposition the rods.
Change Bead Colour 	It is possible to change the colours of the beads on a rod. Change the colour of the first five beads using this colour picker and change the colour of the last five beads using the colour picker on the right.
More Rows 	New rods will be added using the same colours as the most recently created rod.
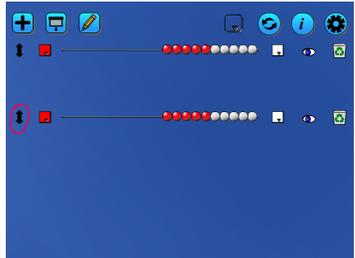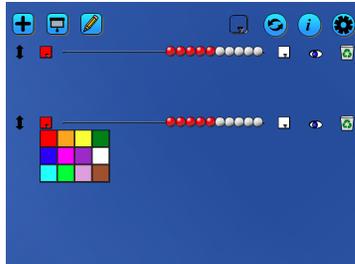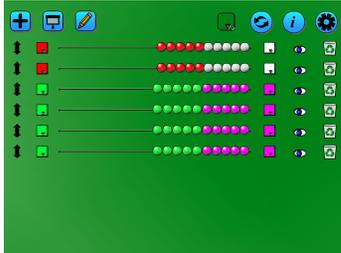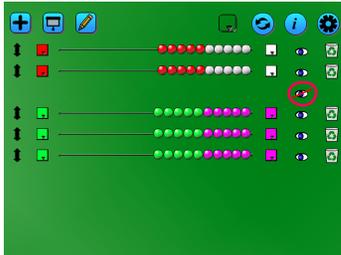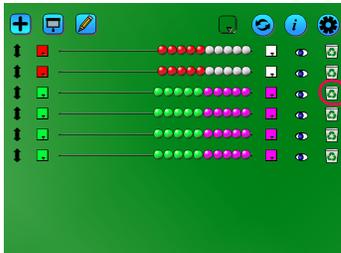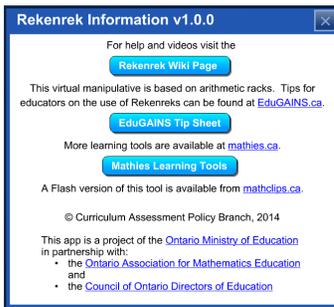
Background Colour	Change the background colour using the colour picker at the top.
Hide a Row	Use the eye icon to temporarily hide a row. In settings mode the eye remains visible as a reminder that a rod is hidden.
Delete a Row	Click the eye again to make the rod reappear. Use the recycling bin to permanently remove a row. You can remain in settings mode in order to have immediate access to the various functions or press the settings icon to return to the less cluttered work space.
Information Button	Click *i* to find additional information about using a rekenrek as well as other mathematics learning tools.