



Related Activities to Try at Home (page 1 of 2)

Dear Family,

The activities suggested below are related to the mathematics we are currently working on in school. Doing them with your child can enrich his or her mathematical learning.

Counting Activities Your child can count collections of objects. Many first graders are able to count amounts of about 40 or 50 accurately. With your help, your child can count even higher. Together, count sets of objects around the home, such as spoons, pennies, or collections of small toys. In school, children will trace their feet and count how many small items (beans, tiles, pennies) fit inside the outline. At home, your child may like to trace your foot and then count how many beans or pennies fit inside.

Start With/Get To Your child selects a number to “Start With” and another number to “Get To.” Count with your child from the “Start With” number to the “Get To” number. During this unit, we will be focusing on numbers 1–60. This activity can also provide practice with counting backward. For example, start with 20 and get to 5.

Write the Numbers As an extension of “Start With/Get To,” children write the numbers they are counting. Children may like to do this variation at home and/or write the numbers in order as high as they can count. At home, children can check a calendar to see how to write a given number.

How Many Am I Hiding? Put 5–12 small objects in your hand. Give your child a chance to determine how many you have. Then hide some in your other hand and show your child what is left. Now ask,

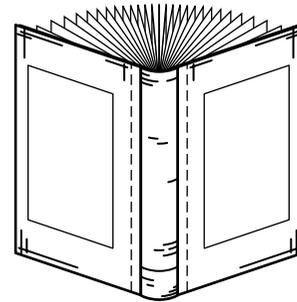
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Related Activities to Try at Home (page 2 of 2)

“How Many Am I Hiding?” Encourage your child to explain his or her thinking. After playing a few rounds with the same number, you can change the total number and start again.

Math and Literature Here are some great counting books you can find in your local library. Have your child count the objects on each page. These books can also provide a good context for posing simple addition or subtraction problems, such as “There are 7 birds on this page. How many would there be if 4 more birds came along?”



Dale, Penny. *Ten in Bed*.

Ehlert, Lois. *Fish Eyes*.

Kushkin, Karla. *The Philharmonic Gets Dressed*.

Merriam, Eve. *12 Ways to Get to 11*.

Mora, Pat. *Uno, Dos, Tres, One, Two, Three*. (English/Spanish)

Sloat, Teri. *From One to One Hundred*.

Sturges, Philemon. *Ten Flashing Fireflies*.

Tang, Greg. *Math for All Seasons*.

Tang, Greg. *Math-Terpieces*.

Wells, Rosemary. *Emily's First 100 Days of School*.

Zaslavsky, Claudia. *Count on Your Fingers African Style*.