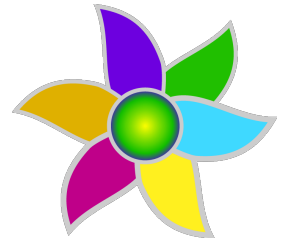


Activity 1: Number Bracelets



Grade level: K/early 1

Purpose: Children count numbers with touch; useful as counters for other activities



Materials needed:

- Pipe cleaners (different colors - optional)
- Plastic pony beads (different colors - optional; about 60 total)
- Masking tape
- Permanent marker



Activity:

To make the number bracelets, start with a pipe cleaner. Have the child place one bead on it. Then twist the ends together, forming the bracelet.

Take a piece of masking tape about three inches long and tape it together over the twisted part, forming a tag. Write (or have the child write) the number 1 on both sides of the tag.



Do the same for 2, 3, 4, up to 10 beads. You will have 10 bracelets.

It's best if the bracelets are made with different color combinations of pipe cleaners and beads to make them easier for the child to tell apart.

Tips:

- Store the bracelets in a baggie when not using them so they don't get mangled or lost.
- Keep the bracelets around for use as counters in other activities.



Benefits: Counting the beads to go on each pipe cleaner gives a tactile experience of each number.

Activity 2A: Number Bonds With Counters



Grade level: K/early 1

Purpose: Children learn to make and break up numbers up to 10

Materials needed:

- Number bracelets, beads, beans, pennies, or any other counter
- Laminated number bond sheet (next page)
- Dry-erase marker & eraser or rag/towel

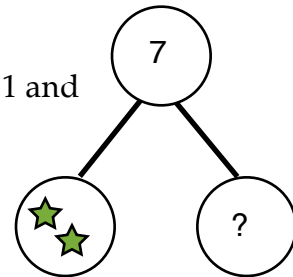
Activity:

Starting with the number 2, write the number with the marker in the top circle. Ask the child to make the number with counters and/or number bracelet (1 plus a counter) in the lower two circles, then 2 in the left and 0 in the right, then switched. Erase the number when the child is successful.

For number 3, see that they put 2 in one circle and 1 in the other, and then they switch; then they put 3 in one and 0 in the other, and then they switch.

Make sure they do all the combinations for each number; suggest they think about it if they don't get them all, or help them by offering one part and having them do the other part.

Example: 7 is in the top (whole) circle. The child puts in 6 and 1, 1 and 6, 3 and 4 and 4 and 3. Then they get stuck. You put 2 in the left circle and ask them to figure out how many should go in the right one. They can count up to be able to do this (some children may need help).



Tips:

Add an incentive for reluctant learners that for every five combinations they make, they get a jelly bean, or a nickel, or some other small reward.

Benefits: Composing numbers with part-part-whole is an important foundation for addition and subtraction.

Activity 2B: Number Bond Practice



Grade level: 1

Purpose: Children connect number bonds to addition and subtraction problems

Materials needed:

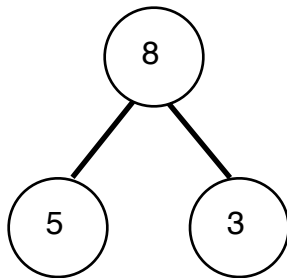
- Laminated number bond sheet (next page)
- Dry-erase marker & eraser or rag/towel
- Counters (optional)

Activity:

Write a number up to 10 in the top (whole) circle. The child then needs to write two numbers in the part circles that total that whole.

Once they have done this, they should write four number sentences (equations) that go with that number bond. Encourage them to try to get all four, and prompt them if they need help.

Example:



Number sentences:

$$\begin{aligned}3 + 5 &= 8 \\5 + 3 &= 8 \\8 - 3 &= 5 \\8 - 5 &= 3\end{aligned}$$

Once they get better at the numbers to 10, try numbers to 20. Once they master these, higher numbers can be used.

Tips:

Add an incentive for reluctant learners that for every five combinations they make, they get a jelly bean, or a nickel, or some other small reward.

Benefits: Composing numbers with part-part-whole is an important foundation for addition and subtraction.

