



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

Dear Family,

The activities suggested below are related to the mathematics we are currently studying in school. Doing them together can enrich your child's mathematical learning.

**Counting** A major focus of this unit is counting. You can help your child learn to count fluently by finding many opportunities to ask your child to count in different ways. For example, sometimes you can sing a counting song and count aloud together. At other times, ask your child to count a small set of objects ("How many library books do we have?") or the number of pictures on a page. A slightly different kind of question is "Can you make a group of 6 apples?" or "Can you count out 7 pennies?" You can also ask your child to count to solve a problem; for example, "If everyone needs a fork, how many forks do we need to set the table?"

**Grab and Count** Gather a set of objects, such as toy cars, blocks, or foam peanuts. Ask your child to grab a handful and count how many he or she grabbed. Then, ask your child to predict whether you will be able to grab more or less. Try it and find out. Your child can also grab two handfuls and see which holds more, the left hand or the right.

**Which Is Longer?** Another major focus of this unit is comparing objects to see which is longer. Find opportunities to ask your child about the length of different objects; for example, "What do you think the longest part of this cereal box is? Do you think the cereal box is longer than the milk bottle? How could we find out?"

*(continued)*



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

**Playing *Compare*** We have been playing a card game called *Compare* that is similar to the familiar card game, *War*. Each player gets half of a deck of cards and puts them in a pile facedown. Both players turn over their top card, and the person with the larger number says, “Me.” Ask your child to explain how he or she knows which number is greater. The game is over when all of the cards have been turned over.

**Math and Literature** You can find the following books in your local library and read them together.

These books focus on counting forward:

Anno, Mitsumasa. *Anno’s Counting Book*.

Crews, Donald. *Ten Black Dots*. (available in Spanish)

Ehlert, Louise. *Fish Eyes*.

Emberley, Rebecca. *My Numbers/Mis Numeros*.

Falwell, Cathryn. *Feast for 10*.

Grossman, Virginia. *Ten Little Rabbits*.

Hoban, Tana. *Count and See*.

Mora, Pat. *Uno, Dos, Tres, One, Two, Three*.

Walton, Rick. *How Many, How Many, How Many*.

These books focus on counting backward:

Bang, Molly. *Ten, Nine, Eight*.

Dale, Penny. *Ten in Bed*.

Dunbar, Joyce. *Ten Little Mice*.

Peek, Merle. *Roll Over! A Counting Song*.

