

# Counting

Children develop numeracy and maths skills through everyday activities like counting, looking at shapes, and talking about sizes.

## CURRICULUM

### Early Years Learning Framework Links (EYLF):

- Children are connected with and contribute to their world
- Children are confident and involved learners
- Children are effective communicators

### NSW Curriculum and Syllabus Links:

Describes mathematical situations using everyday language, actions, materials and informal recordings (MAe-1WM)

Counts to 30, and orders, reads and represents numbers in the range 0 to 20 (MAe-4NA)

### Learning Progressions (LPs)

## FAMILIES

### READ



2 min

#### Counting is the process used to find out how many objects are in a set.

Counting is one of the first experiences of maths for young children. Learning to say numbers often begins with a favourite song or rhyme and the repetition of the number names. Children will often say the numbers before they visually recognise and identify individual numbers.

Focusing on the 'everyday' facilitates learning and conveys to children that mathematics is stimulating, fun and relevant.

The achievement of higher order mathematical skills relies on the achievement of foundational skills.



### EXPLORE



10 min

#### Some ideas for learning in the everyday:

- Count the number of people travelling in the car or bus
- Cut fruit into six pieces and ask your child to count the pieces
- Practise counting when grocery shopping with your child (count the number of apples you put into your bag)
- Count how many steps it takes to walk from the kitchen to the bathroom
- Sing songs like 10 Green Bottles and 5 Little Monkeys
- Share the story 10 Little Fingers and 10 Little Toes by Mem Fox

## TEACHERS



### REFLECT



30 min

#### Reflect on your knowledge and practice.

Consider the EYLF, NSW Syllabus and LPs:

- Where have these children come from?
- Where are you taking them?

Think about the learning happens in your classroom that builds the knowledge and skills for counting.

What do you expect from the early learner?

What do you want parents to know about counting?

How is counting used across the curriculum?

Consider this skill - What are the connections between literacy and numeracy?



### ENGAGE



45 min

#### Engage in a learning conversation with parents.

Is there anything in the video that challenged your thinking about learning?

What foundational counting skills do you see in the video?

How are the children:

- Practising their skills?
- Testing their ideas?
- Building their knowledge?

Share what counting looks like in your classroom.

What opportunity can you create or do you have at home that develops counting?