

Viewer Worksheet for:

Supporting Mathematical Development in Young Children: Counting

This [video](#) describes children's understanding of quantity and their development of counting skills from rote to purposeful.

Routine – A family child care provider counts each step while assisting children to climb up stairs to use the restroom.

Additional ideas for counting during routines:

Explicit Teaching – One preschool teacher leads her whole group singing “Five Green and Speckled Frogs” with props. A second leads a small group in a chant about the “Gingerbread Man” with a self-created visual that integrates both literacy and numeracy. In both cases, the teachers model counting down from five. The children see the numbers growing smaller as one is removed each time.

Additional strategies for supporting counting skills:

Play – A toddler teacher observes a child pushing a dump truck in the block area. She asks him to get her four blocks so she can build a house. He places two blocks in the truck and brings them to her, then goes back and gets two more. The teacher arranges the blocks in a square and invites the child to continue building with her.

Additional ideas for including counting in play:

A lot of mathematics learning occurs within the context of classroom play, especially when teachers are talking with children about how to solve problems involving number.

What are some vocabulary words that adults could use with children to support their counting?

Identify the materials that you noticed in the video:

What are some additional types of items that could be counted with children?

A meaningful curriculum is integrated so that learning experiences include many developmental domains and content areas. This video focused solely on mathematics. Think about ways that counting could be integrated into a larger topic of study in authentic ways.

Topic: _____

Write your ideas here.