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Related Activities to Try at Home

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.

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, "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.

Start With/Get To Ask your child to select 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 1–120.

Write the Numbers As an extension of "Start With/Get To," children write the numbers they are counting. You can also challenge your child to write the numbers in order as high as they can count.

Counting Activities In class, students are counting sets of up to about 60 objects. 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 (e.g., 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.

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Math and Literature Here are some 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.
Grossman, Bill. My Little Sister Ate One Hare.
Harris, Trudy. 100 Days of School.
Mora, Pat. Uno, Dos, Tres, One, Two, Three. (English/Spanish)
Morozumi, Atsuko. One Gorilla.
Rockwell, Anne F. 100 School Days.
Slater, Teddy. 98, 99, 100! Ready or Not, Here I Come!
Wells, Rosemary. Emily's First 100 Days of School.

