

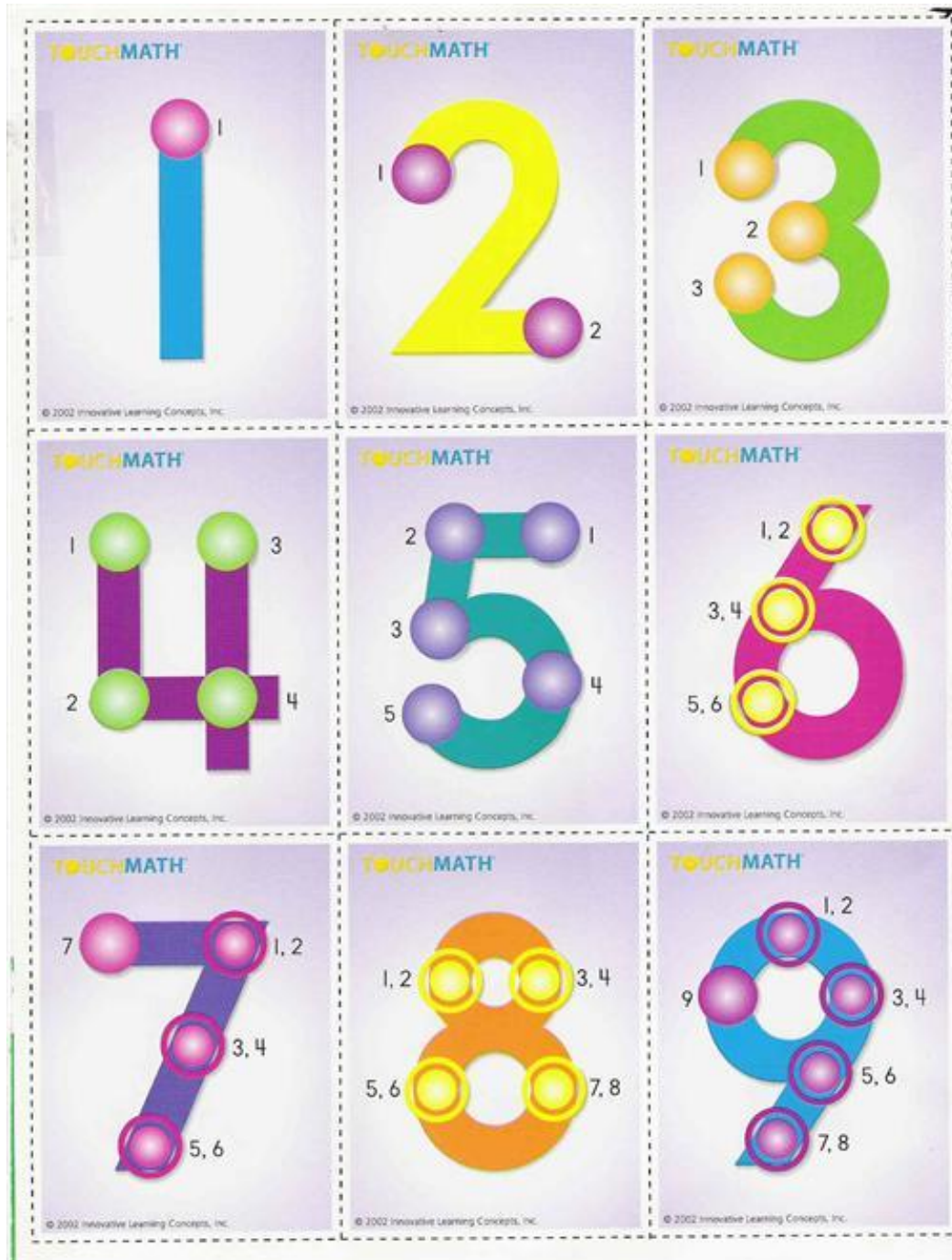


# Touch Math Explained

- Touch math uses a multisensory approach to help children associate numerals with real values. For example, the number 3 is not just a squiggle on a page. It represents a quantity, such as 3 apples, 3 buttons, or 3 TOUCHPOINTS.
- Students use TouchPoints to help build a more concrete understanding of basic number sense and fact knowledge.
  - Numerals 1 through 5 have single TouchPoints. 
  - Numerals 6 through 9 have double TouchPoints. 



## Touch Math Addition

- When adding, you start by having the student dot all numbers and count the dots:

A hand-drawn diagram showing the equation  $2 + 3 = 5$ . The number 2 has two red dots labeled 1 and 2. The number 3 has three red dots labeled 3, 4, and 5. The result 5 is written to the right of the plus sign.

A hand-drawn diagram showing the equation  $6 + 1 = 7$ . The number 6 has six red dots labeled 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, and 6. The number 1 has one red dot labeled 7. The result 7 is written to the right of the plus sign.

- Eventually, you teach the student to dot only the smaller number, and count on from the bigger number:

A hand-drawn diagram showing the equation  $7 + 3 = 10$ . The number 7 is written first, with an arrow pointing to it from the text "Say '7'". The number 3 has three red dots labeled 8, 9, and 10. The result 10 is written to the right of the plus sign.

## Touch Math Subtraction:

- When subtracting, you dot the smaller number. Have the student say the bigger number, and count **backward** using the dots on the smaller number.

A hand-drawn diagram showing the equation  $9 - 5 = 4$ . The number 9 is written first, with an arrow pointing to it from the text "Say '9' & count backwards". The number 5 has five red dots labeled 7, 8, 4, 5, and 6. The result 4 is written to the right of the minus sign.

**With time and continued practice, eventually students will not need to draw the dots, but will simply visualize them as they tap them with their pencil on the number!**

# Touch Math Multiplication:

$$3 \times 2 = ?$$

Step 1:

You are multiplying 3 two times.

Draw the number 3 with 2 lines next to it:

3                  

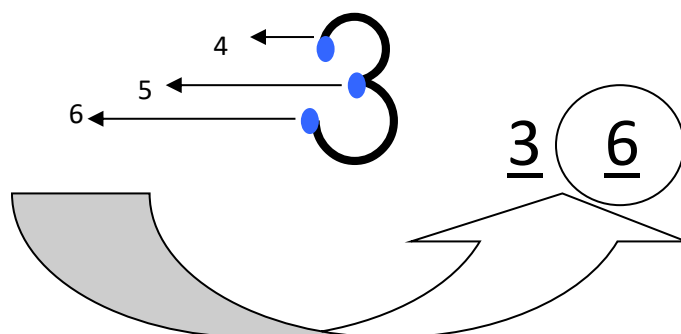
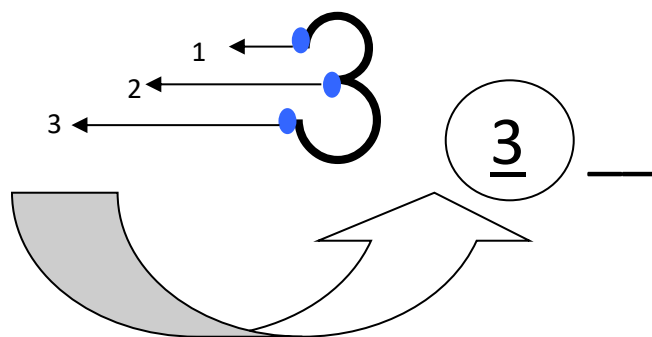
Step 2:

Add the touch points to the number 3:

Step 3:

Use the touch points to help you count 3 two times. You count “1...2...3” as you touch each point, then write the 3 on the first line. Then continue counting up, touching each point a second time: “4...5...6,” and write 6 on the second line. When all lines are filled, your final answer will be on the last line!



The answer is  
6!