

FAMILY MATH

Write Numerals and Create Sets of Up to 5 Objects

Dear Family,

Students are learning to count out up to 5 objects from a larger group. This is harder than it seems! It can be hard to stop counting at a specific number and not keep counting the entire group!

Students are also learning to write numbers 1 through 5 by using writing rectangles and practicing rhymes. Look for more information about this important skill on the back of this page.



Students count out 3 cubes from a larger group to match the number.



Students know there are enough cubes because each dot gets a cube.



Students show 4 by using drawings and numbers.

At-Home Activities

Activity Idea 1 Count Out a Group

Give your child a container of household items such as pasta, beans, or pennies. Show a number from 1 to 5 and ask your child to count out the same number of items. When groups of 5 become easy for your child, count out groups up to 10.

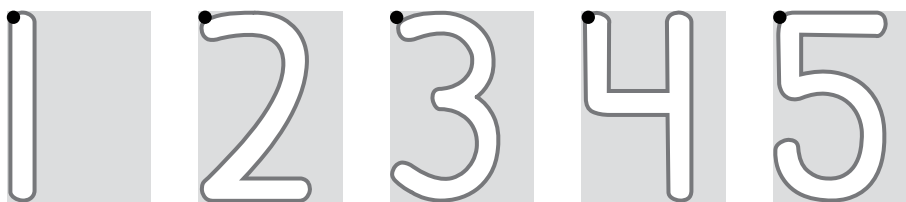
Tip: Use the number cards from the set sent home with Family Math, module 1 topic B, or write the numbers 1–10 on index cards or sticky notes.

Activity Idea 2 Trace Numbers

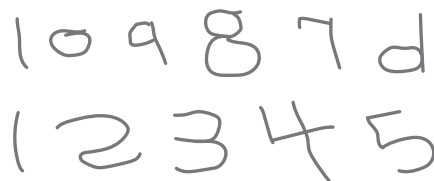
Practice writing numbers 1 through 5 by asking your child to trace each number with their finger. Use the rhymes on the back of this page to remind them how to write each number. Then make it a game by asking your child to trace a number on your back. See whether you can guess the number your child traced. Once your child has had time to practice each number, trade places and see whether your child can guess the number you traced.

Writing Rectangle

The writing rectangle is a guide to help children correctly write numbers. The dot at the top of each writing rectangle gives children a place to start. Children are less likely to reverse their numbers when they start from the dot and keep their writing inside the rectangle. Eventually, they will be able to write numbers without the writing rectangle, but this tool provides them with structure to form numbers correctly from the start.



It is normal and developmentally appropriate for kindergartners to occasionally reverse numbers, or write them backward. Reversal of numbers should not be cause for concern. Instead, simply remind your child to begin at the dot and use the writing rectangle, while repeating the number rhyme (see below), to help write the number.



Starting numbers and letters from the top is an important habit for your child to build in kindergarten. It will help them write quickly and neatly when writing demands increase in later grades. A dot reminds children to start their numbers at the top.



Number Writing Rhymes

- 1 “Top to bottom, and then I am done. I just wrote the number 1.”
- 2 “Half a moon, there’s more to do. Slide to the right. I wrote a 2.”
- 3 “To the right and around the tree. Around again to make a 3.”
- 4 “A little line down, to the right some more. Now a big line down to make a 4.”
- 5 “Down the side, around a hive. Give it a hat. I wrote a 5.”