

## Family Activities



### School Readiness Skill: Counts in a sequence up to 30

The ability to count out loud is a foundational skill that children will need before they begin to explore more complex math concepts they will encounter in the elementary grades.

#### Count and Clap

Invite your child to join you in counting from 1 to 10. Ask: “Can you clap to ten with me?” Join your child in clapping once for each number all the way up to ten. Once your child has gotten the hang of this you can challenge him or her to join you in clapping to 15, 20, 25, 30, and beyond. Be sure not to overwhelm your child. Allow him or her to work at a pace that is comfortable. The key to counting is practice.



#### Let's Count and Move

Invite your child to pick a number between 1 and 10 and do a corresponding form of movement that number of times. For example, if your child picks the number 7 he or she could do 7 jumping jacks while counting out loud to the number 7. Continue this activity with different numbers between 1 and 10 and other forms of movement (jumping jacks, hopping in place, standing on one foot, side bends, toe touching, running in place, etc.) Once your child has become comfortable counting and moving independently to 10 he or she can move on to higher numbers such as 20, then 30, and beyond.



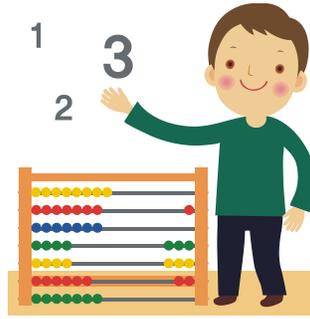
#### Line Counting

For this activity you will need 30 sheets of paper. Label each sheet of paper with a different number from 1 to 30. Arrange the numbered sheets of paper in order in a line on the floor. Choose a number for your child to hop or walk to on the number line- Example: “Hop to the number 7.” As your child hops to the number 7 on the number line he or she should count to that number out loud. Repeat this activity with other numbers increasing to higher numbers as your child becomes comfortable with doing so. Be sure to adjust this activity to the developmental needs of your child so that he or she does not become overwhelmed.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
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## Everyday Counting

There are many opportunities for your child to count objects in the world around them. Your child can help you count the silverware and dishes as you set the table. He or she can count the loose change from your pocket or purse. Your child can even count the number of steps it takes to walk from the front door to the car in the driveway. No matter what the situation, always encourage your child to say the numbers out loud as they are counting. The more opportunities you provide him or her to count the better they will become.



There are many children's books available that reinforce counting and number concepts. Check out your local library for some of these exciting choices.

*Ten, Nine, Eight* by Molly Bang

*Ten in the Bed* by Penny Dale

*Ten Apples Up on Top!* by Theo LeSieg

*Five Little Monkeys Jumping on the Bed* by Eileen Christelow