



Activity Idea

Activity	Counting collections
Main Focus	Counting

Resources	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Collections of objects, with different numbers of large, small and varied objects, some small and round (like conkers, pebbles, shells, buttons, beads, curtain rings, corks, yoghurt or bottle tops) and some long and thin, (like twigs, lolly sticks, feathers, keys or spoons) ➤ Baskets, boxes, jars (recycled containers) to keep the collections in ➤ Bowls, boxes, pots, paper cups, beakers, egg boxes, ice cube trays, muffin trays or other recycled containers to count objects into ➤ Wooden or plastic numerals, or numeral cards (with dots), paper and pens, to label the collections ➤ Number line with numerals and dots, for reference.
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Activity Outline	<p>The aim of the activity is for children to count some engaging objects and organise their counting to help them tag each object with a number and to keep track of which things they have counted.</p> <p>Children should work in pairs or small groups. Encourage children to choose a collection. They can then choose how they will count, e.g. by putting into pots, trays or beakers.</p> <p>Children can then begin to count the collection, supporting each other as they go alongside the support of an adult.</p> <p>Children can label their collection by choosing a number label or writing their own, referring to a number line.</p>
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Extension Opportunities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Provide outdoor collections of larger objects in buckets ✓ Take children on a walk to make collections of conkers, pine cones, twigs, leaves etc. ✓ Invite children to count things in twos or fives into each pot. ✓ Count objects into five or ten frames.
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