



Counting Collections

At Lakeridge, we are counting!

Counting Collections is becoming a regular practice in many of our classrooms, as a result of our work with the University of Washington.

Why is counting important?

Counting provides the foundation for understanding numbers and for computation skills (addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division).

Counting teaches children

the names of numbers

the sequence of numbers

one-to-one correspondence

relative size

efficient and accurate counting strategies

It's easier to keep track of groups of ten, than to count 170 single objects!

skip counting (5-10-15-20)

how to count on from a number (129, 130, 131)

how to count groups of objects

how to represent or record what they've counted



What should children count?

Everything!! Buttons, rocks, candy, seeds, hair clips, toys, books, pencils, crayons, blocks, flowers on the wallpaper, etc. Older kids can count unopened boxes of items.

Paperclips come in boxes of 100. If I have 15 boxes plus 26 loose paperclips, how many do I have?

How can you help at home?

- Count out objects out loud together
- Provide objects to count: cereal, macaroni, sunflower seeds, pennies
- Look for opportunities to count. Examples: Count while picking up Legos or toys. Count the number of tiles on the floor while waiting for an appointment. Count items in the grocery cart. Count items in the kitchen. Count the books on the bookshelf or toys in the toy box.