

Hide and Seek

Primary Objectives

4. Demonstrates traveling skills
20a. Counts

Why It's Important

Finding new ways to encourage your child to practice her counting skills keeps her interested in math concepts. It also teaches her the many ways that math skills are used throughout the day.

Materials

Small objects (rocks, paper clips, beanbags, seashells, etc.); small bucket, box, or basket for collecting objects

What You Do

1. Invite your child to explore the collection of objects. Encourage her to count the number of objects she sees.
2. Explain that you will use the objects to play a game of Hide and Seek. Ask your child to cover her eyes, or have her stand in an area of the room that is blocked from view, while you hide the objects for her to find. *You counted five objects. I'm now going to hide all five objects for you to find.*
3. After you have hidden the objects, offer your child the basket. Encourage her to hunt for each object and place it in the basket when she finds it. Explain that she should count the objects as she finds them so that she will know when they are all found.
4. Once she has successfully collected all of the objects, you may hide them again or make the game more challenging by increasing the number of objects. If you are using more than five objects, count them together as your child finds them.
5. Look for simple experiences throughout the day that will provide your child with more practice counting.