

Math Moments that Matter

KINDERGARTEN



Numbers to 10

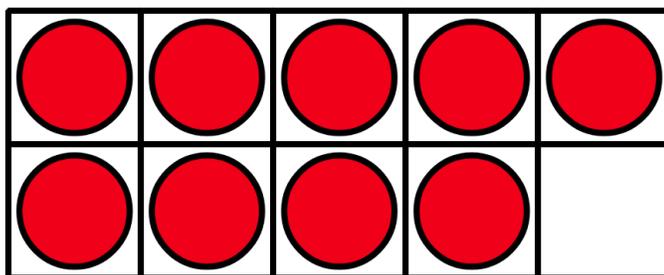
Kindergarten is all about building strong number sense. One of the key ideas your student will work on is recognizing numbers to 10. Your student will learn to count, recognize, and write numbers to 10. This lays the foundations so that they can extend this key idea to numbers to 20 and beyond in 1st grade.

Students learn to show numbers in different ways so they can better see what each number means. In the first image, a student holds up three fingers. In the second image, a student fills a ten-frame to show nine. Using fingers, dots, and ten-frames helps students connect all these representations and understand that they show the same number in different ways.

EXAMPLE: Hand showing 3



EXAMPLE: Ten-frame showing 9



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Communicating in Math

In kindergarten, students learn to talk about their math thinking and listen to others. They learn to:

- Explain how they solved a problem
- Listen to a friend's ideas
- Show their thinking with pictures, numbers, and words
- Work together to solve problems

These skills help students understand math more deeply and learn from one another.

What You Might See in the Classroom

Students using counters or connecting cubes.

Students showing numbers in many ways (fingers, dots, drawings, tools).

Teachers asking:

- “How do you know?”
- “Can you show it another way?”
- “How do you know those amounts are the same?”

Students talking with partners or in small groups about their thinking.

What You Can Do at Home

Ask: “Can you show that number a different way?”

Play board games that use dice and counting.

Sort snacks: “How many grapes do you have? Can you make two equal groups?”

Play “I Spy” with numbers: “I spy a group of 4 things.”

Ask: “How did you know that was 7?”

Make it a Math Moment!

Everyday moments are math moments. When young students show numbers in different ways—on their fingers, with toys, or in drawings—they learn that numbers are all around them and their thinking matters.

