

Read and Play with Math

Counting

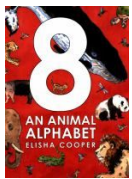


Math skills are essential for kids to be successful in school and life. **Counting** is one of the nine Big Ideas put forth by Erikson Institute's Early Math Collaborative that young kids need to practice. We are featuring activity sheets for all nine ideas this summer. Here is Erikson's website for more great math activities and information. <https://bit.ly/30wTbgd>

We **count** every day, whether at home, at school, or while out shopping. It may seem simple, but is actually a sophisticated concept children learn through play and practice.

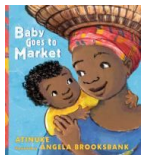
Read and Talk

Here are some of our favorite counting books plus easy activities to do with little ones. You can put these items on hold at skoki.library.info, wait for a notice they're ready, and pick them up at curbside delivery.



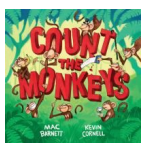
8: an Animal Alphabet by Elisha Cooper (Youth ABC/123 Books COO)

A fun counting book that's also an alphabet book. Find a certain animal in 8 places on a page where all the animals' names begin with the same letter. For example, are there 8 ants or 8 aardvarks on the "A" page?



Baby Goes to Market by Atinuke (Youth Picture Book ATI)

Join Baby and his mama at a Nigerian marketplace. Each time the baby gets fruits, he eats one and puts the rest in the basket. Play a game of "one less": if you eat 1 apple from a bowl of 3, how many apples are left?



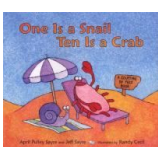
Count the Monkeys by Mac Barnett (Youth ABC/123 Books BAR)

Counting the monkeys isn't easy when they've been frightened away by other animals. For example, "Say 'thank you' 6 times, very politely" to 6 sweet, old beekeepers who shoo away a swarm of bees.



One Family by George Shannon (Youth Picture Book SHA)

A family can be many things in this story that introduces numbered groups from 1 to 10. This is like an I-spy game to find and count many things on a page.



One is a Snail, Ten is a Crab by April Pulley Sayre (Youth Easy NF 513.211 S)

We're counting feet in this counting book that takes us all the way to 100. How many feet are in your family? Don't forget to count your pets' feet and maybe even the 8 legs of the spider on your window.

Play

Counting fingerplays are fun, help develop fine motor skills, and encourage mathematical thinking. Try this one:

Five Fat Peas

Five fat peas in a pea pod pressed (hand in a fist)
One grew, two grew, so did all the rest.
(put thumb and fingers up one by one)
They grew and they grew (raise hands in the air very slowly)
And did not stop, (keep raising hands higher)
Until one day...
The pod went POP! (clap hands together loudly)



Practice counting throughout your day!



How many red peppers are we buying?



How many steps to the second floor?

And more!

How many sidewalk squares are we passing?
How many flowers are in a garden?
How many petals are on the flower?
How many shoes are in your closet?