

Kindergarten Important Math Information

Getting Started and Numbers to 5



Dear Family,

Our class is starting the year with a unit of study in mathematics called *Getting Started and Numbers to 5*. In our math class, students engage in math problems and activities and discuss the underlying concepts. They are asked to share their reasoning and solutions. It is important that children solve math problems accurately and in ways that make sense to them.

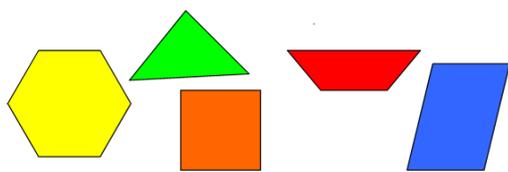
This unit of study will introduce your student to some of the mathematical routines we will do all year. These routines include: counting to take attendance, using the calendar to count days and keep track of time and events, counting and recording the number of objects in a jar, creating a set with the same number, counting and analyzing data about our class, such as how many students do (and do not) have a pet.

In this unit of study, students will:

- become familiar with the expectations for learning.
- explore some of the materials they will be using to model mathematical situations and solve mathematical problems.



snap cubes



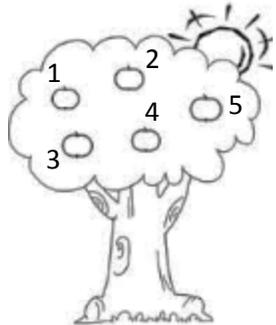
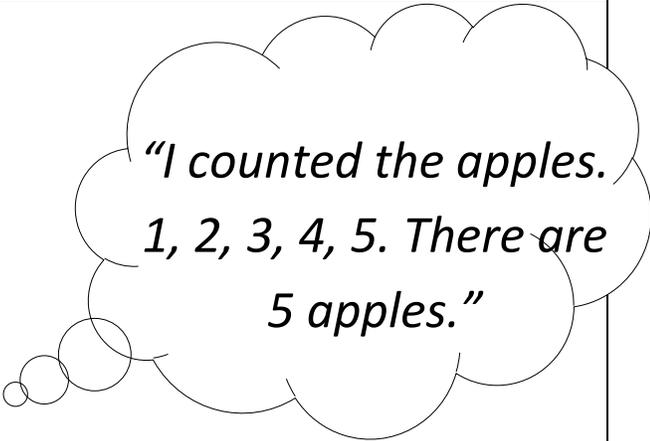
pattern blocks



counters

- talk about mathematical problems and situations.
- work with peers as they share ideas and materials.
- rely on their own thinking, and learn from the thinking of others.

The specific learning goals your student will be working toward are listed below with examples of student work.

Learning Goal: Read and write numerals from 0 to 5 and represent up to 5 objects with a written numeral.	
Example Problem	Example Student Solution
<p>How many apples are on the tree?</p> 	 <p>5</p> 

Mathematical Thinking and Practices Learning Goal: I can use numbers and symbols to show what is happening in situations.



Things you can do at home to support your student throughout this unit of study:

- Explore the calendar as a tool for keeping track of time and events by showing your child how you use it. When you write in an appointment or a family event, or when you use it to find how many more days until a special event, talk with your child about what you're doing.
- Take advantage of any opportunities to count with your child. Children learn to count accurately by having many opportunities to see and hear other people count and to count on their own. You can model this by:
 - counting out napkins or plates for the table.
 - counting the number of stairs as you go up or down.
 - counting the number of a particular object (e.g., dogs, signs, or cars) as you walk down the street.
 - counting the number of items in a collection of plastic animals, cars, or other small toys.

