

Grab Bag Comparing: At Home

Comparing Quantities

From the Developing Number Concepts Series by Kathy Richardson

Goals:

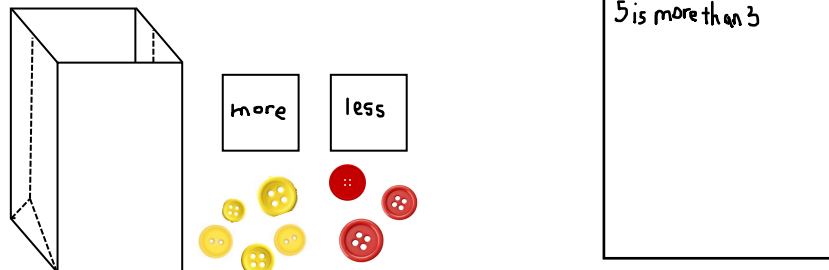
- Compare two groups and determine which is more and which is less.
- Tell how many more or less.

Materials:

- Two kinds of counters: (such as two types of macaroni, buttons of 2 colors, buttons with 2 holes and 4 holes, two kinds of coins, etc.)
- More/Less/Same cards (cut paper into 2"x3" cards and write More, Less, or Same)
- Paper bag
- Paper to write on

Procedures:

1. Place two kinds of counters into a paper bag.
2. The child takes one handful from the bag (or two handfuls if you want to have more counters to compare)
3. Then the child figures out which kind is more and which is less and labels them with the More, Less, or Same cards.
4. Optional: They can write what they found out. *6 is more than 4 or 4 is less than 6*
5. Put the counters back in the bag and repeat.



What to watch for:

- Can the child compare two groups and describe one group as more, less, or the same?
- Can the child tell how many more or how many less?
- Does the child tell how many more or less by knowing or does he need to figure it out?

Extensions:

- The children determine how many more or less cubes one group has than the other. **(If they have trouble with the language of how many more or less, ask, "What would you have to do to make the yellow buttons the same as the red buttons?")**
- Provide smaller objects of two colors so the handful will be up to 20 objects.