

Shake Them Up: At Home

Counting Practice

From Developing Math Concepts in Pre-Kindergarten
by Kathy Richardson

Goals:

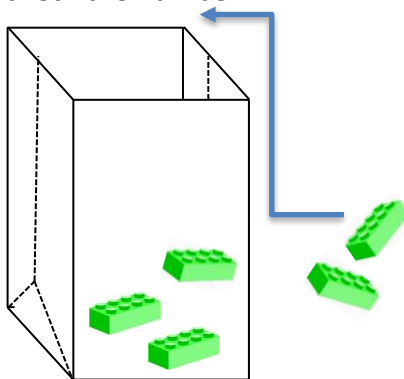
- To practice counting objects
- To experience that the quantity doesn't change unless you add some more or take some away

Materials:

- Objects to count: such as walnuts in the shell, Legos, macaroni, pompoms
- Paper Bag

Procedures:

1. Choose which objects to count. They should all be the same kind of counter. (If the child is a beginning counter, larger objects will
2. Count together as the child puts the counters one at a time in the bag.
3. Ask the child to "Shake Them Up" by shaking the bag.
4. Ask the child, "How many do you think are in the bag?"
5. Dump the counters out and check the number.
6. Repeat.



What to watch for:

- Does the child use the correct counting sequence?
- Does the child say one number for each object that was put into the bag?
- Does the child think the number is the same after shaking the bag or does the child think it changed?
- Does the child remember how many were counted?

Extensions:

If the child counts the smaller amounts easily and accurately, change the amount to larger numbers.