

How Many in a Group?: Ages 5-Kindergarten

Being able to recognize and name numbers in a group will help your child:

- Quickly solve addition and subtraction problems in Kindergarten
- Break larger numbers up into smaller parts
- Recognize and remember the patterns in numbers



Ideas to try with your child:

- Play board games that require using dice such as Yahtzee or Trouble.
- Compare groups of objects during your day to decide which is more or less:
 - "I have four cookies. You have three cookies. Who has more cookies?"
 - "How many blocks do you have? I have less blocks than you".
- Ask your child to solve simple addition or subtraction problems.
 - "I have two shoes, you have two shoes. How many shoes do we have all together"?
 - "You have three chicken nuggets. If you eat one, how many will you have left"?

If your child is struggling:

TRY THIS GAME!

The game BUG requires one die. In this game, each number on the die represents one part of the bug.

#1 = Body, #2 =Head, #3 =Leg, #4=Eye, #5= Antenna, #6=Tail

Each player needs to roll a #1 to start and then can add each detail to that part. For instance, you cannot add each eye until you have rolled a #2 for the head, but you can add each leg that goes on the main body (need to roll a "3" for each one). The first player to finish their bug wins.

You can vary this with a bunny, cat, snowman, etc. Just decide what number stands for each part to go on the picture.

Going further:

- Roll two dice and have your child add or subtract the numbers or tell which is more or less.
- Have your child draw pictures that add and subtract numbers up to 10.

The WA State Department of Early Learning and the Richland School District believes that parents, families, and caregivers are young children's best teachers. This resource guide, part of *Strong Foundations for School: Resource Guides for Parents of Young Children*, highlights a key developmental skill for **children of Kindergarten age** that parents can help improve at home.



Adapted from *WA State Early Learning and Development Guidelines, 2012*: "Recognize by sight and name the number of items in a group, up to five." *Learning About My World, Ages 5 and Kindergarten*, pg. 93