

SFUSD
MATHEMATICS

Kindergarten Family Letter

Unit 2: Numbers to 10

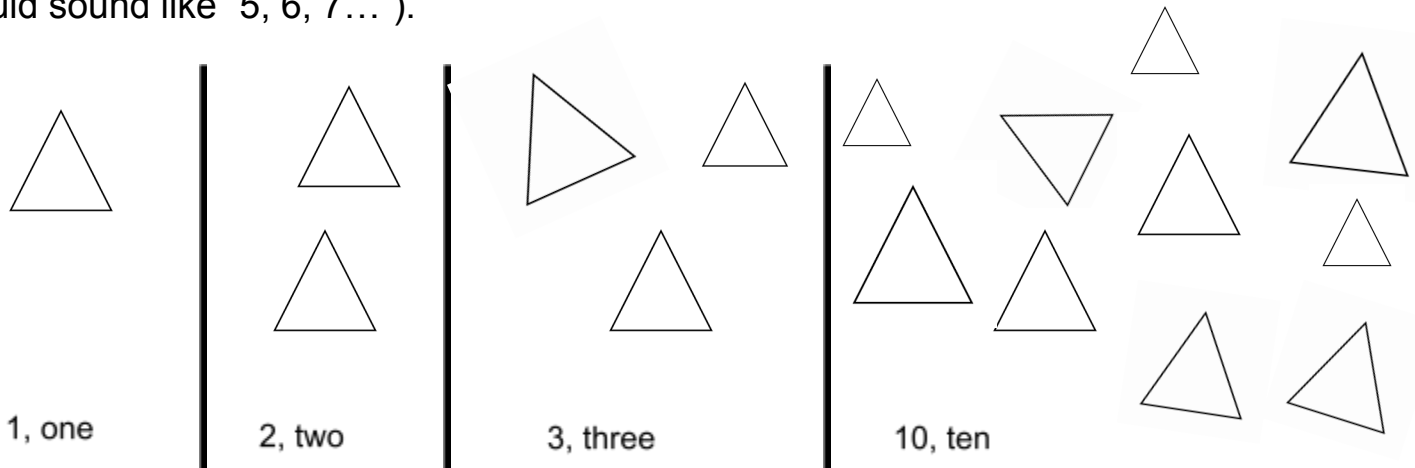
Numbers

In kindergarten students spend more time with numbers than any other math content, starting to make sense of the way numbers are written and that they are used to count and to reason. In this unit, students count groups of objects, compare both written numbers and groups of objects, and write and recognize numbers up to 10.

Counting

Students will continue to count groups of items using cardinal numbers (one, two...). The first half of the unit focuses on numbers 0–5, and the second half of the unit focuses on numbers 6–10. Students will practice with both words and symbols.

Students will count starting at a different place in the sequence (counting up from 5 would sound like “5, 6, 7...”).



Comparing Numbers

Throughout the unit, students will practice comparing groups of objects and the size of numbers.

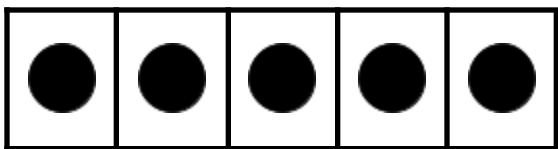


Three dots is fewer than five circles.
3 is less than 5.

Counting by Fives and Tens

One of the most important ideas in our number system is that groups of tens can help us think about and write very large and very small numbers. In the calendar routine, kindergarten teachers guide students to see a bundle of ten ones as a ten, or that tally marks can be used to count groups of five and ten quickly.

Students also start organizing numbers using a visual tool called a five frame. They will see ten frames in the next unit.



Five frame



Tally Marks



Straws bundled in groups of ten

Activities You Can Do to Support Math at Home

Counting Everyday Objects, With Writing

Materials:

- A group of any everyday object.
- A notebook or scratch paper, and pencil or crayons.

Directions:

As with Unit 1, ask your child to help you count out everyday items, such as 3 shirts, or 5 potatoes. Add writing and drawing as described to the right.

More I Spy, With Writing

Materials:

- Any place with printed numbers.
- A notebook or scratch paper, and pencil or crayons.

Directions:

As with Unit 1, notice a number in the world around you. Wait for your child to notice the same number that you do, turning it into a guessing game. Add writing and drawing as described to the right.

Writing in Math

You can extend any math activity by asking your child to draw certain number of items or to write the numbers they see in the world. Writing and drawing in math is a great habit from the classroom that you can reinforce at home by having a special place for students to record their ideas and observations.

It is natural for kindergartners to make mistakes with their writing. Expect reversed and incorrectly written numbers. Precision will improve as students gain understanding and have more time to practice. With your encouragement, they will begin to think of math and language as being connected in important ways, which will help them in every grade at school.

