



Number Rods

Lesson Plans & Instructions

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NUMBER RODS

INTENTIONALITY:

To introduce the child to the quantities 1 – 10
Indirect preparation for math in base 10
Preparation for linear measurement
Preparation for an understanding of the sequence of numbers
Visual and muscular impression of increasing quantity.

MATERIALS:

10 number rods varying in length from 1 decimetre to 10 decimetres (1 metre).

PRESENTATION:

Invite the child. Show the child where the number rods are kept and remind him that they are carried like we carry the red rods, vertically and to one side. Ask the child to help you carry the first two or three rods to the carpet. Once the rods are at the work carpet, invite the child to sit beside you and carefully select the shortest rod. Choose the next two rods and put them in order, carefully lining up the left edge, in order to make a “stair”. Next, give the child a three period lesson on the number quantities 1, 2 and 3. When finished, invite him to help you put the rods away and remind him that he can take them out another day, build them up and review the number names.

FURTHER EXERCISES:

- 1) The child builds the number rods and reviews names.
- 2) Add additional numbers with a three period lesson as the child is ready, until he knows the quantities up to 10.
- 3) Have the child mix up all the rods and place them all in order, counting each as he goes. A group of children may also do this, taking turns selecting the next rod.
- 4) Children can make their own number rods out of construction paper to take home or use at school.

POINTS OF INTEREST:

The pattern of the rods (red blue)

AGE:

3 ½ - 5 years.