

**1 – Daily Fluency, Counting Claps from 0-9 (large group, about 2 minutes)**

Counting claps from 0 to 9 prepares students for the upcoming objective of touching and counting to 9 in the lesson and contextualizes zero in the count sequence. Be aware that many students will clap by mistake on zero. Keep it fun and playful, “Oops! There weren’t any claps to count yet! Ha-ha! Let’s try again.”

- We are going to count to 9. I’m going to say a number, and we are going to clap that many times.
- Zero. (Claps zero times.)
- One. (Claps one time.)
- Continue with the counting sequence to 9. Continue the activity replacing claps with flaps (same process as above.)

**2 – Fluency Activity, Deconstructing 9 (small group, about 4 minutes)**

Working with a group of 4-6 children, provide each child with a baggie or container of 5 loose cubes of one color and 4 of another color. Moving forward from prior lessons, this fluency activity focuses on decomposing 8 into a tower of 5 and 4. Observe the students. Notice who counts the number of cubes in each part. As you circulate, whisper, “How many cubes are in this short tower? How many cubes are in this one?”

- Open your bags and make one tall tower with all the cubes of one color touching.
- Count the number of cubes in your tall tower.
- Break your tower into parts by color.
- Put your tall tower back together.

**3 – Fluency Activity, Use “1 more” to make a Tower of 9 (small group, about 4 minutes)**

Working with a group of 4-6 children, provide each child with 9 loose cubes, 5 of one color and 4 of another color. Moving forward from prior lessons, this fluency activity focuses on *1 more*, again observing more than directing. For example, the directions do not indicate to separate the colors. Rather, observe what students do.

T: Open your bags and take out 0 cubes to start your tower.

T: Take out 1 cube. Use 1 cube to start your tower.

T: Take out 1 more cube. Add 1 more cube to your tower. How many cubes does your tower have now?

Continue the process until the tower reaches a height of 9 cubes. Have students compare their towers and notice the possible differences in their appearances.

**4 – Fluency Activity, Compose a Tower of 9 (small group, about 4 minutes)**

Working with a small group of 4-6 children, provide each child with 9 loose cubes, 9 loose cubes (3 in one color, 3 in another, and 3 in another)

- Use all your blocks to make 3 towers that are the same. (Pause and observe.)
- Put your 3 small towers together to make 1 tall tower. (Pause and observe.)
- Break your tower again into 3 towers that are the same. How many cubes are in 1 small tower? (Pause and observe counting strategies.)
- Put your tower together again. Touch and count to find how many cubes there are in all. (Pause and observe counting strategies.)

Observe the choices students make when you ask them to make 3 towers that are the same. (Do they make towers that are simply the same size? Or, are they also the same color? Or, are they the same color pattern?) Assure students that there are many correct ways to make the towers.

**5 – Learning Center**

Offer one or both of these learning center experiences to reinforce counting and number sense:

- Counting Photos – Photocopy children’s photos for a complete classroom set. Children choose a number card (0-9) and then select the appropriate number of photos. →



- Count and Clip – Prepare clothespins with numerals 0 – 9. Children clip the appropriate numeral to a paper plate or posterboard circle that has been sectioned and marked with the appropriate number of dots. →

