

1 – Daily Fluency Activity, Give Me 10! (large or small group, about 3 minutes) ← Great Transition Activity!

Throughout the day, announce “It’s time to give me 10!” and engage children in 10 reps of a movement activity, such as jumping jacks, clapping hands, or hopping. Vary with different numbers and different movements.

2 – Daily Fluency Activity, Counting Challenge (large or small group, about 5 minutes)

Let the children decide what they want to count! For example: Today I am going to count the windows in the room...the backpacks...the markers at my table. The first few days/weeks, give them limits (for example, don’t start by counting all books or all the blocks) but challenge themselves with bigger numbers as you repeat this daily challenge for the remainder of the school year.

3 - Concept Practice (small group, about 8 minutes)

- In advance, prepare a “stage” to act out your subtraction stories. This can be as simple as using painter’s tape to designate an area on the carpet. Have a white board or chalk board available for your own use.
- Working with a group of 4-6 children, re-introduce the idea of subtraction stories, then extend by using props:
 - Invite 3 children to sit on the stage. While saying the word problem, tap students to indicate when they become part of the action. Say, "Listen to my subtraction story: Three friends are dancing. One friend stops to sit down."
 - Ask, "Who can tell the story again?" Then ask, "How many friends did we take away?"
 - Ask, "How many friends are dancing now?" Provide wait time. Then, signal the students to answer. Write 2 on the board, saying "2 friends."
 - Ask, "Who remembers the question?" Guide half the children to restate the question and half to say the answer.
 - Repeat as time allows with other problems, such as: “Five dancers are on the stage. One dancer jumps off the stage. How many dancers are left?”
 - Extend by using props, such as the parachute and balls. “Five balls are bouncing on the parachute! Two balls fell onto the floor. How many balls are left on the parachute?”
 - Challenge children to create their own subtraction stories.

4 – Learning Centers

Check out the [April Preschool Math Link](#) to select a learning center. While these centers are designed to build number sense, you can challenge your students by adapting to create and practice addition and subtraction stories.