

Dimensions Math

Pre-Kindergarten Letter Home #5

Chapter 5 Numbers to 5 – Part 2

Dimensions Math
Letters Home

Math is Fun!

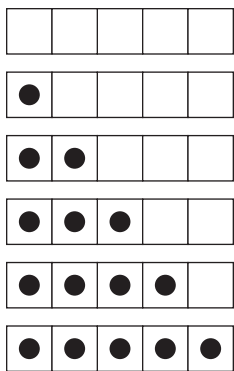
In this chapter, your child will be learning to recognize numbers 1 to 5. Of course, we will continue to review rote counting and counting with one-to-one correspondence.

Building on the counting done in Chapter 4, your child will be working on recognizing that when he or she counts a small set of objects, the last number said when counting is the number of objects in the set. For example, if your child counts the toes on one foot, after counting to 5 when you ask, “So how many toes do you have on that foot?” your child can say, “Five toes,” without having to count them again.

We will not be teaching how to write numbers in Pre-K. Instead, basic and advanced counting competencies are emphasized.

In addition, your child will not be using a traditional number line in Pre-K. A number path is different from a number line in that each number is separated from the others. Most young children do not know that there is an infinite number of numbers between two whole numbers or that there are numbers less than zero. These are critically important concepts that will be introduced in later years.

In addition to number paths, your child will be using five-frame cards. Here is a picture of a set of five-frame cards showing 0 to 5.



Subitizing, the ability to instantly recognize a quantity without counting, is emphasized in this chapter. Research shows that there is a clear relationship between subitizing ability, numeracy, and general mathematics skills.

What can we do at home?

- Point out the numbers 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5 whenever you see them and ask your child to identify the number. Eventually, your child will point out the numbers to you!
- Continue to count small sets of objects with your children, adding the question after counting, “So how many _____ are there?”
- Roll a die showing only numbers 1 – 5 (put a piece of tape over the side showing 6) and ask your child to tell you how many dots they see. The goal is to have your child recognize small quantities without counting. Another way to build subitizing skills is to use flashcards. Make flashcards with 1 to 5 dots or stickers on them in different arrangements. Play a game in which you flash a card and your child tells you, as quickly as possible, the quantity shown.

Vocabulary & Mathematical Terms

- Number path
- Number card
- Number cube (die)
- Arrangement