

# COUNTING BEAD FUN



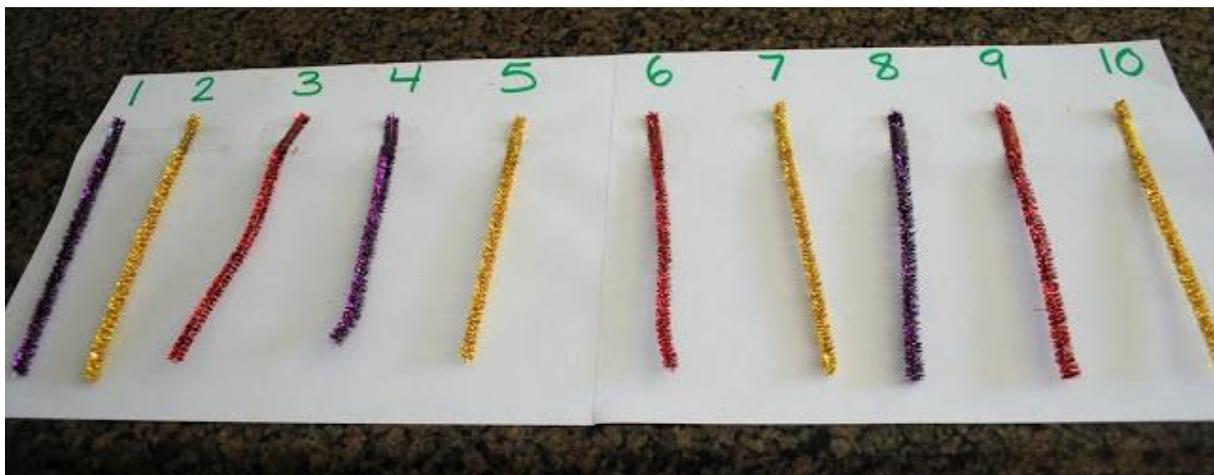
For this learning experience you will need:



- Paper (tip - two sheets of A4 paper taped together works well)
- Sticky Tape
- Craft Pipe Cleaners or string cut into long lengths
- Beads or pasta tubes

Tape two pieces of A4 paper together and write the numbers 1-10 on top. Cut lengths of string or use the pipe cleaners and tape them under each number. Be sure you just tape the top of the string/pipe cleaner to the paper so your child can still lift it up to insert the beads/pasta.

- Fill up a small bowl with some beads/pasta.
- Ask your child to place the correct amount of beads/pasta on to each string/pipe cleaner.



This activity assists your child with counting, recognising numbers and understanding that a number represents an amount.

This learning activity is covered in The Curriculum for Excellence under Numeracy and Mathematics, Number and number processes:

***'I have explored numbers, understanding that they represent quantities, and I can use them to count, create sequences and describe order.'*** MNU 0-02a

Skills:

- Recite numbers forwards from zero in the correct sequence.
- Describe order in simple mathematical language, using first, next, last.
- Touch count items with accuracy and consistency in a range of contexts, stating how many.
- Understand the meaning of “more than” and “less than”.
- Recognise numerals from 1 to 10.
- Identify the number “before” and “after”.
- Match a number to a quantity.

This activity also strengthens fine motor skills as your child works hard to grasp the beads/pasta and thread them on the string/pipe cleaner.

When your child has finished, ask them to count the beads/pasta to check they have got it right.

### ***Does your child need more challenge?***

You could extend this activity by adding more sheets with numbers to 30; adding a line with zero and talking about the importance of zero (see video link)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eJdTZU08peM>

You could invite your child to thread the correct number of beads using a pattern, for example red, blue, red, blue, red, blue. Your child could count to on find how many more beads there are on different numbers, e.g. how many more does 6 have than 4? Touch count 1, 2, 3, 4 ...pause and leave a space on the string .... then touch the beads as they count 5, 6. By leaving the space they will see 6 has 2 more beads than 4.



If you are using pasta, your child could colour it using pens or paints!

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