

Math and Reasoning: Target 13


**I count to 5 by memory**

**Tools**

- Your body - fingers, arms, legs
- See-Inside Number Peg Puzzle

**Activities**

- Move it, shake it
- Count all day
- Puzzle play:
  - Identify pieces as "numbers"
  - Count pictures under pieces



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Age 2

**Recommended Slide Time:** 5 minutes

**Slide Purpose:** Create familiarity with counting in order from 1 to 5\*.

**Lesson Point 1. Tools: Your body – fingers, arms, legs; See-Inside Number Peg Puzzle.**

**Lesson Point 2. In-class activity: Move it, shake it.** “Take your two arms and wave them above your head. Now wiggle your five fingers in the air. Stomp your two feet on the floor.” Have fun using body parts to introduce counting. Research confirms that not only do children benefit from stimulating fine motor skills but that large muscle, gross motor movements activate brain development.

**Lesson Point 3. At-home activity: Count all day.** Recommend that parents count aloud naturally during the day. Their child will benefit from the context and repetition of hearing counting sequences of one, two, three, four and five. One, two buttons; one, two, three, four, five steps. Tickling in patterns of three, breaking crackers in two, or counting people ahead of you in grocery lines are all easy ways to surround the child with counting real world objects.

**Lesson Point 4. In-class activity: Puzzle play.** Ask parents to open the puzzle and suggest ways they can use it with their child.

- Children may confuse letters and numbers at this age, so explain that letters are used to create words and numbers are used for counting. Model counting pieces to the puzzle.
- As the child tries to match the numbers into their respective slots, name that number. Encourage child to look at the shapes and colors.
- Point out the pictures to count under each number. The pegs exercise fine motor skills, and strengthen the coordination for showing age with fingers.
- Store the puzzle in a special place until you are ready to “play with a purpose” again.

\*Matching number shapes is presented in the winter lesson.