

discovery time

Let's Count

Parents and caregivers, extend Discovery Time into your home. Share these fingerplays and activities with young children. **The letter for this theme is N.**

Here is the Beehive

Here is the beehive,
(Make a fist and cover it with the other hand)
But where are the bees?
(Shrug shoulders)
Hidden inside where nobody sees.
(Shake head)
Watch and you'll see them come out of the hive.
(Hold hand at brow)
1, 2, 3, 4, 5.
(Count fingers)
Buzz!
(Wiggle fingers around like flying bees)

Bunnies' Bedtime

My bunnies must now go to bed,
(Place both hands to cheek in a sleeping motion.)
The little mother rabbit said.
But I will count them first
To see if they have all come back to me.
1 bunny, 2 bunnies, 3 bunnies dear,
(Count out on fingers.)
4 bunnies, 5 bunnies – yes, all are here.
(Count out on fingers.)
They are the prettiest things alive –
(Place arms together and rock them back and forth.)
My bunnies, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5.
(Count out on fingers.)

Baby Mice

Where are the baby mice?
Squeak, squeak, squeak.
(Cover eyes with hands)
I cannot see them. Peek, peek, peek.
(Open fingers in front of eyes, to see.)
Here they come from the hole in the wall,
(Make hole with two hands.)
One, two, three, four, five.
(Wiggle the fingers on one hand.)
That's all!

Ten Fingers

I have ten fingers,
(Hold up both hands)
And they all belong to me.
(Point to self)
I can make them do things.
Would you like to see?
I can shut them up tight.
(Make fists)
I can open them wide.
(Open hands)
I can put them together.
(Place palms together)
I can make them all hide.
(Put hands behind back)
I can make them jump high.
(Hands over head)
I can make them jump low.
(Touch floor)
I can fold them up quietly,
(Fold hands in lap)
And hold them just so.



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Help your child get ready to read with these simple activities.

- **Talking:** Make grocery shopping fun by having your child look for foods that start with certain letters. Encourage her to sound out the letters.
- **Singing:** Read and then sing a book with your child to help him to learn new vocabulary.
- **Reading:** Make reading an adventure by reading bedtime stories with a flashlight.
- **Writing:** When your child writes, have her read to you what she writes.
- **Playing:** Make a game out of picking up toys. Count the number of toys that you put away with your child.

family literacy tip

Fun with Counting

Make counting fun! Teach your child what a calendar is used for by counting down the days until their birthday or a favorite holiday. Then, show your child how numbers can be written out like “6,” or spelled out like “six,” and write both on a piece of paper. Have children trace your numbers with their finger as you read the numbers out loud.

Stanberry, Kristin. “Early Math Matters: A Guide for Parents of Preschoolers.” 2018. www.getreadytoread.org/early-learning-childhood-basics/early-math/early-math-matters-a-guide-for-parents-of-preschoolers. Accessed 11 Sep. 2018.



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