



Spider Count

counting

Materials large butcher paper
marker
plastic spiders
pie tin

What to do

1. Write the words to the song “Itsy, Bitsy Spider” on a piece of butcher paper and hang it so children can see.
2. Invite the children to recite it with you.
3. Encourage the children to count the number of times the word “spider” appears in the rhyme. Point to the words on the butcher paper.
4. Sing the song again and place a plastic spider in a pie tin each time the children say “spider.”

Related book *The Itsy Bitsy Spider* by Iza Trapani

+ Sandy L. Scott, Meridian, ID

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Swimming in a Row

patterns

Materials *One Fish, Two Fish, Red Fish, Blue Fish* by Dr. Seuss
assorted colors of plastic fish
small die-cut fish or fish stickers
orange, yellow, red, blue, and green construction paper
large bowl pattern
white paper
blue crayons

What to do

1. Prepare one fish bowl pattern per child using white paper and either make fish die-cuts out of orange, red, yellow, blue, and green paper or provide fish stickers of the same colors mentioned.
2. After reading the story *One Fish, Two Fish, Red Fish, Blue Fish* make a pattern using the plastic fish.
3. Create an ABBCD pattern to go with the title of the book [*One Fish (A) Two Fish (BB), Red Fish (C), Blue Fish (D)*] or create a much easier AB pattern (red and blue fish) or ABB (one fish, two fish).
4. Encourage the children to come up with their own patterns using fish die-cuts or stickers. Invite them to glue fish on their white fish bowl pattern. Provide blue crayons so they can add water to the fish bowls.
5. Help them add a description under their patterns.
6. Discuss the children's patterns as a way to review patterning.

+ Quazonia J. Quarles, Newark, DE

Ten Black Dots

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Materials

Ten Black Dots by Donald Crews
black construction paper
scissors
paper
glue
crayons or markers

What to do

1. Cut out enough circles from black construction paper for each child to have 10.
2. Set out paper, glue, and drawing materials at the art center.
3. Gather the children in a circle.
4. Show the children the 10 black circles. Talk about the circles and let them know that circles can also be called dots, as they are in the story that they are about to hear.