I Can Count to 10

Ages 2 - 5 | 15 minutes

Lesson overview

Let's count together from 1 to 10! This fun, energetic counting song helps toddlers and preschoolers practise saying numbers in order through repetition, rhythm and cheerful animation. Children can continue learning with number tracing, counting, matching, sequencing and fun number challenges in the printable activity pack.

Learning objectives

- Practise counting aloud from 1 to 10 in the correct order.
- Recognise written numerals from 1 to 10.
- Connect spoken number names with written numerals.
- Develop one-to-one counting by counting objects in pictures.
- Identify missing numbers in simple sequences.
- Strengthen fine-motor control through number tracing, writing and drawing.
- Build confidence and enjoyment when exploring early mathematical concepts.

Learning themes

Counting, Numbers

Resources and materials

- I Can Count to 10 video
- I Can Count to 10 Activity Pack
- Crayons or colouring pencils
- Pencils for tracing, counting and writing

Lesson sequence

1. Let's Count Together (2 minutes)

Introduce the numbers 1 to 10. Ask children if they can count any numbers already, then count slowly together using fingers to represent the numbers. Encourage everyone to join in at their own pace.

2. Sing and Count to 10 (4 minutes)

Play the video and encourage children to sing along with the repeated number groups. Count on fingers as the numbers appear in the song: 1, 2, 3; 4, 5, 6; 7, 8, 9; and 10. Repeat the full sequence from 1 to 10 together, celebrating when you reach ten.

3. Count What You Can See (3 minutes)

Choose a counting activity from the pack. Encourage children to point to each object as they count, saying one number for each item. Talk about the total once they have finished. Younger children can count smaller groups with support.

4. Number Detective Activity (4 minutes)

Choose one suitable number activity from the pack. Children could trace numbers 1 to 10, find hidden 3s and 7s, match identical numerals, connect the numbered dots, or follow the number path across the river. Older preschoolers can try completing missing numbers in the number trains.

5. The Counting Star Challenge (2 minutes)

Finish with a quick counting recap. Count from 1 to 10 together, then ask children to identify a few numbers out of sequence. If time and ability allow, try one part of the Counting Star Challenge, such as counting objects or filling in a missing number. Celebrate their effort and finish by saying, 'I can count to 10!'

Questions and discussion

- Can you count from 1 to 10?
- What number comes after 3?
- What number comes before 7?
- Can you find the number 5?
- How many fingers are you holding up?
- Can you spot a missing number in a sequence?

Lesson recap

Children practised counting from 1 to 10 through repetition, rhythm and finger counting. They explored written numerals, counted objects and developed number recognition and sequencing skills through the printable activities. The lesson encourages confidence and enjoyment in early maths.

Song and printable resources

Watch the song video:

https://youtu.be/4-oxXWQutbM

Download the activity pack:

https://snappysingalong.com/downloads/snappy-singalong-activity-pack-i-can-count-to-10.pdf

Teacher notes and observations

What went well? What did the children enjoy? What would you adapt next time?