

WATER WATER



Topic: Counting to 10



Key terms: stream, brook, river, sea, numbers

What we need: cards with number from 1 to 10

Estimated time: 10 - 15 minutes

Methods: group activity, explanation, discussion

Activity description:

Possible objectives: To consolidate basis for further mathematical thinking using audio & visual senses. To support the cooperation of children while creating 'streams' according to instructions.

Activity:

Aim of the activity:

To identify a specific number using sight and sound and to understand the quantity of this number when creating objects that signify streams.

Background context:

Even if a child can name numbers in the correct sequence, it does not necessarily mean they understand the quantity of these numbers. For example, when asked how many birds are in a picture, a child may answer "a lot" or can have difficulties working out the correct number even when there are only a small number of birds. To understand the relation between a number and the quantity is the basis for further mathematical thinking.

Before the activity starts:

Ask children to think about when they were last by a river or a stream and if they enjoyed spending time near water. Stimulate interest by explaining that they are going to play streams by moving quickly around in the space, like water movement.

During the activity:

Children create 'streams' according to the teacher's instructions. When they are shown a card with the number on it (1-10), the children will form a group consistent with that number. Each group creates a stream with children holding their shoulders or hips and walking/running around the area (can be restricted). With the lower numbers (1-3), children will find it difficult to create a stream group, so instead will signify water waiting to join a stream.

Change the numbers regularly to keep the activity flowing. Towards the end, encourage the children to move slow, fast or join groups together to symbolise streams joining together to make a bigger river then into a sea (possibly all the children). Sounds of flowing water can be played with children being encouraged to imitate the sound of water.

Possible evaluation questions for children:

Which stream was the hardest to form? Which was the easiest? What did you learn during this game? How did you feel?

Curriculum links:

Maths
Numbers and relations

Sources: © This activity sheet was created by The Take Me Out Partnership

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