How Many Seeds in a Pumpkin?

Who will have the most seeds in their pumpkin?

Topics: counting by 2s, 5s, & 10s, following directions, order, size, estimating, comparisons

Math Connections: *How Many Seeds in a Pumpkin?* is a great way to practice estimating and counting by 2s, 5s, and 10s. Estimating is when you roughly calculate a number that you think is close to the actual total. Talk with your child about estimation and why it can be helpful. Talk about different things you can estimate.

Before reading, practice with your child counting by 2s, 5s, and 10s. See how high they can count. Help them get to 100 if they need help.

While reading, pause before the children in the book give their estimates, and ask your child to estimate how many pumpkin seeds they think would be in the small, medium, and large pumpkins. Turn the page. Were their estimates close to the students' estimates? Continue to read and then pause when Mr. Tiffin asks his students how they should count the seeds, ask your child to think about the ways the pumpkin seeds can be counted. Are there easier ways to count them compared to other ways? Then on the next page, have your child pick which way they think counting is better: by 2s, 5s, or 10s. Stop on the pages where the seeds are all laid out. This is a good place for your child to practice counting by 2s, 5s, and 10s. Ask which way they like counting the best and why.

Extension Questions:

1. What are some other ways you can count the pumpkin seeds?

2. Compare counting by 2s, 5s, and 10s. Which way is easiest? Which way is hardest? Which way is fastest? Why?

3. What are some other characteristics you could use to line up the students?

4. How many students are there? Can you count them by 2s, 5s, and 10s?
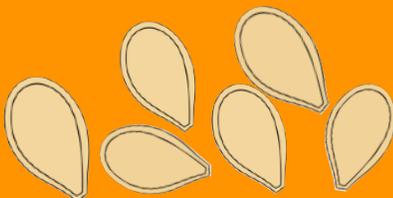
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Mr. Tiffin brings three pumpkins to class. His students estimate and then find out the number of seeds in each pumpkin, counting by 2s, 5s, and 10s.

AGES: 3 to 9 years

Interest Level: Preschool to 4th grade

ATOS Reading Level: 3.2

Lexile: AD560L

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Genre: Fiction

Classification: Picture Story Book

Vocabulary for Building Math Concepts	5, 35, 63, 170, 316, 340, 350, all, biggest, circle, count(ing), eight, even, fifteen, five, fives, forty, four, groups, guesses, hundred, lines, lining, many, more, most, numbers, odd, one, one million, over, pairs, rows, size, six, smallest, tallest, tens, thirty, three, time, twelve, twenty, twenty-five, twenty-two, twos, whole
Vocabulary for Extending Math Concepts	estimating
Vocabulary for Reading Comprehension	chilly, leading, peered, pulp, scooping, smocks,

Early Math Project Resources:

Patterns to 100!

Pattern to 100! (Spanish)

Online Resources:

Pumpkin Seed Estimation Activity

Spanish Title: Not available

Related Books: *Betcha* by Stuart J. Murphy

Find this book at your local library: https://www.worldcat.org/title/how-many-seeds-in-a-pumpkin/oclc/70199814?referer=br&ht=edition

Early Math Project

Age Level	Related Preschool Foundations and CA State Standards
Preschool/ TK	**Number Sense 1.0** Children begin to understand numbers and quantities in their everyday environment. **1.4** Count up to five objects, using one-to-one correspondence (one object for each number word) with increasing accuracy. **2.1** Compare, by counting or matching, two groups of objects and communicate, "more," "same as," or "fewer" (or "less").
Kindergarten	**Counting and Cardinality K.C.C.1** Know number names and the count sequence. **K.CC.4** Count to tell the number of objects. **K.CC.6** Compare numbers.
Grade 1	**Number and Operations in Base Ten 1.NBT.1** Extend the counting sequence.
Grade 2	**Number and Operations in Base Ten 2.NBT.1, 2.NBT.2** Understand place value. **2.NBT.7.1** Use estimation strategies to make reasonable estimates in problem solving
Grade 3	**Operations and Algebraic Thinking 3.OA.1** Represent and solve problems involving multiplication and division.

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