Name: ______ Date: _____

Counting sets of objects to 10

• Count up to 10 objects

The aim of these activities is to give your child practice in counting objects that are arranged randomly. Some children find this difficult, as they cannot always move the items to one side as they count them, and so may end up not counting one of the objects, or counting one of the objects twice. If you notice that your child is miscounting, suggest that they put a small dot or mark on each object as they count it. This should help them to recognise which objects they have already counted and which are left.

Give your child further opportunities to count up to 10 in this way, e.g. count the number of people in a cafe, the pictures on the wall, the flowers on a plant.

You will need:

- coloured pencils/ crayons/felt-tip pens
- everyday items suitable for counting, e.g. buttons, pencils, paper clips

What to do

Together, look at the first tree in each pair on Homework N11. Ask your child to count the leaves on the first tree. Encourage your child to touch each leaf as they count; this will make their counting easier and more accurate. If they find it difficult to count, ask them to put a green mark inside each leaf as they count it. This way, they will be able to see which leaves they have already counted and which are still left.

Once they have counted correctly, ask them to draw the same number of apples onto the second tree. Count with them to check once they have drawn the apples.

Repeat this in the same way for each pair of trees.

Allow your child to colour the leaves and apples if they would like to.

What to do

Use everyday items suitable for counting to provide your child with occasions to count from 1 to 10 objects. Place a selection of everyday items on a table or on the floor, and ask your child to count out from 1 to 10 of a particular object. For example, ask them to count out 8 buttons, saying each number name aloud. Then count together to check that their answer is correct. If you need to, arrange the objects in rows to make the check easier and more accurate.

What to do

Encourage your child to notice opportunities to count, both at home, and out and about. For example, while shopping you might ask them to choose 6 oranges and put them into the basket, or choose 10 'pick and mix' sweets they would like.

Remind them that there are times when you can count sounds or actions. Ask them to count how many steps it is from the post office to the butcher's, or how many jumps from their bedroom to the bathroom, etc.

Feedback

Use this box to record any observations, comments or questions for your child's teacher.