Quantifying

Choice Board

Ask your child to choose one or more of the activities show below. Making a choice and following through are important skills for cognitive and social emotional development. Choose from the following activities to find out what your child knows about quantifying.

Ouestions to Ask:

• When shown small numbers (1-5) of items, can your child recognize how many there are without counting? How many can your child recognize? When given two sets of items, can your child find the total number by counting all or counting on?

Family Tips:

Encourage the child to recognize how many there are for small sets of items without counting. Allow children to count items and use their fingers to find the total between two numbers.

Sorting: Find a small collection of any small item (buttons, coins, rocks) Have the child decide on a way to sort the items. Have the child sort the items and talk about the parts/groups. How many in each group? How many in all? Can you find another way to sort them?

Inside/Outside:

Gather up to ten small items that can be safely tossed. Place a container large enough to toss the items in or find a way to create a circle on the floor or ground (hoola hoop, string, draw a circle in the dirt,). Take turns tossing the items into the container or circle. Talk about how many are inside and how many are outside. Ask where there is more and where there is less.

Hidden Objects:

Count out five objects together with the child. Say, "Close your eyes." Place a few of the five objects under a cover and leave the other objects visible. Tell the child to say "Shazam!" (or any other fun word) and open his or her eyes. Say, "How many [name of objects] do you see?" Ask, "How many [name of objects] do you think are hidden under the cover?" Remove the cover and ask, "How many are there altogether?" Ask which group has more, fewer, or the same amount. Adjust for larger or smaller quantities up to 10.

How many fingers?

Hold up some (2-10) fingers for three seconds. Ask the child "how many?" to determine if he/she can recognize how many without counting.

Body Parts: Have the child find a way to figure out how many eyes, arms or legs are in the family.

Quick Image: Draw up to 5 dots on a piece of paper and hide them. Uncover the dots for 3 seconds to see if the child can recognize how many there are. Try with different numbers.



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