



1st Grade Math: Counting to 20

Counting to 20 involves learning the numbers from 1 to 20 in sequence, both as numerals and in words. This skill helps students understand basic number order and quantity, which is essential for further math concepts.

What Does Counting Mean?

Counting is the process of saying numbers in a specific order, starting from 1 and going up. Each number represents a quantity. As we count, the number increases by one each time.

Numbers from 1 to 20

Here are the numbers from 1 to 20 written as **numerals** and **words**:

- **1** – one
- **2** – two
- **3** – three
- **4** – four
- **5** – five
- **6** – six
- **7** – seven
- **8** – eight
- **9** – nine
- **10** – ten
- **11** – eleven
- **12** – twelve
- **13** – thirteen
- **14** – fourteen
- **15** – fifteen

- **16** – sixteen
- **17** – seventeen
- **18** – eighteen
- **19** – nineteen
- **20** – twenty

How to Count

When counting, you start with 1 and keep adding one number each time:

- Start at **1**, then say **2**, then **3**, and continue until **20**.

Counting Using Objects

One way to practice counting is by using objects like blocks, buttons, or toys. For example:

- Count 5 blocks: **1, 2, 3, 4, 5**.
- Count 10 marbles: **1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10**.
- Count 20 buttons: **1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20**.

Visualizing Numbers on a Number Line

A **number line** is a straight line with numbers placed in order. It helps you visualize how numbers increase. Here's a simple number line from 1 to 20:

1 --- 2 --- 3 --- 4 --- 5 --- 6 --- 7 --- 8 --- 9 --- 10

11 --- 12 --- 13 --- 14 --- 15 --- 16 --- 17 --- 18 --- 19 --- 20

You can use this to point at each number as you count.

Why Is Counting Important?

Counting is the foundation for understanding numbers. It helps you:

- Recognize how numbers grow.
- Compare quantities.
- Prepare for adding, subtracting, and solving problems.

Practice Makes Perfect!

1. **Count out loud:** Practice counting from 1 to 20 using your voice.
2. **Write the numbers:** Write the numbers 1 to 20 in both numerals and words.
3. **Count objects:** Find objects around the house or classroom to count up to 20.

Conclusion

Counting to 20 is a basic skill that helps students understand numbers and their order. By practicing counting both with objects and on a number line, students can build a strong foundation for more complex math skills!