MATHEMATICS · KINDERGARTEN TO GRADE 3

Counting by 2s, 5s, and 10s

Difficulty level: Easy

Mathematics: Kindergarten to Grade 3

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Overview of the concept

This is how you count big groups fast. Pairs of socks count by twos, fingers on hands count by fives, and dimes in a jar count by tens. Once the pattern is automatic, you can count a pile of coins or a row of chairs in seconds. It is also the first step toward multiplication, since counting by fives is the five times table in disguise.



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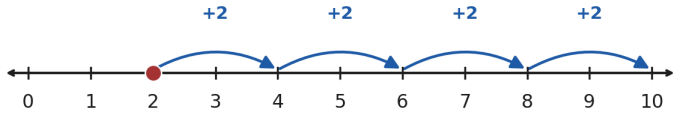
Worked examples

EXAMPLE 1

Q How do you count by 2s to 10?



SOLUTION

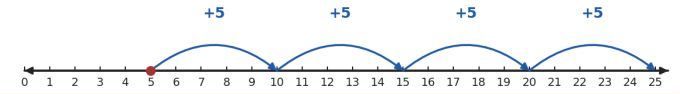
Start at 2 and add 2 each time.

2, then 4, then 6, then 8, then 10

So counting by 2s to 10 gives 2, 4, 6, 8, 10

EXAMPLE 2

Q How do you count by 5s to 25?



SOLUTION

Start at 5 and add 5 each time.

5, then 10, then 15, then 20, then 25

So counting by 5s to 25 gives 5, 10, 15, 20, 25

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Practice questions

1 Count by 2s to 12. Write the full count.

- **A** 2, 4, 6, 8, 10
- **B** 2, 4, 6, 8, 10, 12
- **C** 2, 4, 6, 8, 10, 12, 14
- **D** 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6

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2 Count by 5s to 30. Write the full count.

- **A** 5, 10, 15, 20, 25
- **B** 5, 10, 15, 20, 25, 30, 35
- **C** 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10
- **D** 5, 10, 15, 20, 25, 30

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3 Count by 10s to 100. Write the full count.

- **A** 10, 20, 30, 40, 50, 60, 70, 80, 90, 100
- **B** 10, 20, 30, 40, 50, 60, 70, 80, 90
- **C** 10, 20, 30, 40, 50, 60, 70, 80, 90, 100, 110
- **D** 10, 15, 20, 25, 30, 35, 40, 45, 50, 55

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4 Fill in the missing numbers: 2, 4, __, 8, __, 12

- **A** 6, 8
- **B** 8, 10
- **C** 6, 10
- **D** 4, 6

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5 Fill in the missing numbers: 5, 10, __, 20, __, 30

- A 10, 15
- B 15, 25
- C 15, 20
- D 20, 25

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6 Count by 10s backward from 50: 50, 40, 30, __, 10. What is the missing number?

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7 Count by 2s starting at 1: 1, 3, 5, __, __. What are the missing numbers?

- A 7, 9
- B 7, 11
- C 9, 11
- D 5, 7

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8 If you skip count by 5s, will you ever say 32? Why or why not?

- A No, counting by 5s only lands on numbers ending in 0 or 5.
- B Yes, 32 comes up when you count by 5s.
- C No, counting by 5s only lands on even numbers.
- D Yes, every number comes up when you count by 5s.

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9 How many fingers are there on 4 hands? Count by 5s.

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10 Counting by 2s, you land on 4, 6, 8, 10, 12, 14. What number comes next?

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ANSWER KEY

1. 2, 4, 6, 8, 10, 12

2. 5, 10, 15, 20, 25, 30

3. 10, 20, 30, 40, 50, 60, 70, 80, 90, 100

4. 6, 10

5. 15, 25

6. 20

7. 7, 9

8. No, counting by 5s only lands on numbers ending in 0 or 5.

9. 20

10. 16

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