MATHEMATICS · KINDERGARTEN TO GRADE 3

# Counting objects

### Difficulty level: Easy

### Mathematics: Kindergarten to Grade 3

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## *Overview of the concept*

This is how you work out how many things there are. You count the toys in a box, the players on a team, or the chairs in a room, and you match one number to each thing as you go. That one-to-one matching is what makes the final number trustworthy instead of a guess. It is the first step in all of maths, and you use it every time you check you have everything you need.

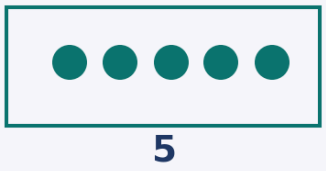


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## Worked examples

EXAMPLE 1

### Q How many dots are in the picture?




**SOLUTION**

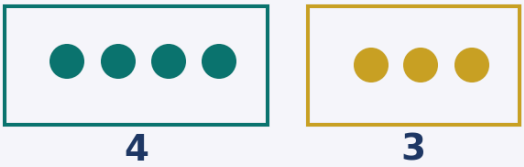
Point to each dot once and say a number for it, in order.

1, 2, 3, 4, 5

The last number you say is the total: there are 5 dots.

EXAMPLE 2

### Q How many dots are in the picture?




**SOLUTION**

Point to each dot once and say a number for it, in order.

1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7

The last number you say is the total: there are 7 dots.

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## Practice questions

1 Ana strings beads onto a string:
red
blue
green
yellow
red
blue
How many beads are on the string?

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2 Leo counts the balls in a bag. He points to each ball once and says a number each time. The last number he says is 6. How many balls are in the bag?

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3 **Hold up one hand. Point to each finger once and say one number for each finger. How many fingers are there?**

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4 **Hold up both hands. How many fingers are there altogether?**

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5 **You count apples: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8. How many apples are there?**

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6 Leo counts 10 cups, then one cup breaks. How many cups are left?

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7 There are 3 red beads and 2 blue beads on a string. How many beads are there altogether?

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8 Hold up both hands and one foot. How many fingers and toes are there altogether?

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**9** Mia counts her crayons and gets to 9, then finds one more under the table. How many crayons does she have now?

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**10** You count 7 apples, then spread them out on the table. How many apples are there now?

- **A** 7, moving them does not change how many there are.
- **B** 8, spreading them out adds one.
- **C** 6, spreading them out loses one.
- **D** 7, but only if you count them again.

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## ANSWER KEY

**1.** 6

**2.** 6

**3.** 5

**4.** 10

**5.** 8

**6.** 9

**7.** 5

**8.** 15

**9.** 10

**10.** 7, moving them does not change how many there are.

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