

Number Sense

1 to 1 Correspondence: 1 to 10

Creating Counting Sticks

What you need:

- 10 12-inch 1 Gallon Paint Sticks (Lowes sells them in pack of 10 for \$.98 with ruler markings to 7 inches. Amazon sells them without the ruler markings. Higher price. Sanded better.) Note: You will need a total of 20 Counting Sticks eventually.



- 1000 Color Coding Round Labels. $\frac{3}{4}$ inch. Removable is best. Staples sells them.
- Sandpaper if you want them smoother.
- Pencil

What You Do:

1. Place the Counting Sticks and round dots on the table. Have your child help you sand them one stick at a time. Count the sticks as you finish sanding them*. Or sand them ahead of time. Hold them as a group of ten and sand the sides all at one time. Some may not need to be sanded. Start by making one set of 10, as demonstrated below.



2. On each stick, mark with a pencil where you want your child to place the round sticker. Marks need to be approximately $\frac{7}{8}$ th of an inch apart. Encourage your child to place a round sticker

on each dot. Assist him in counting as he puts each sticker on and again when he has completed the stick.

3. Using a pencil (which can later be erased), write the corresponding numeral at the bottom of the stick.
4. Now you have created a learning tool your child will be able to use for the next 10 years.

Next Steps:

1. "Pompoms and Counting Sticks" activity.
2. "How Many in the Cup?"