March 12, 2020

**Counting Collections at CREC**

We are counting! Counting Collections is becoming a regular practice in many of our classrooms. Why is counting important? Counting provides the foundation for understanding numbers and for computation skills (addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division).

**Counting teaches children:**

-the names of numbers

-the sequence of numbers

-one-to-one correspondence

-relative size

-efficient and accurate counting strategies

-the value of organizing in math! It’s easier to keep track of groups of ten than to count 170 single objects!

-skip counting (5-10-15-20 ),

-how to count on from a number (129, 130, 131 )

-how to count groups of objects

-how to represent or record what they’ve counted



**What should children count? Everything!!**

Buttons, rocks, candy, seeds, hair clips, toys, books, pencils, crayons, blocks, flowers on the wallpaper, etc.

**How can you help at home?**

Count out objects out loud together!

Provide objects to count: cereal, macaroni, sunflower seeds, pennies

Give your child cups and plates to organize by tens and hundreds

Show your child how much you love counting too!

**Listen to your child count and ask:**

-Are they including every number in the sequence?

-Are they touching each item as they count?

-How are they organizing their objects?

-Can they write the number and draw a picture of what they counted?

The more children count, the stronger their number sense will be.