## Math is Fun!

We're counting now! You may think that your child has known how to count for a long time. In PreKindergarten we'll focus on rote counting first. Rote counting is the ability to say the number words in the correct order. If your child is already adept at rote counting, don't worry. We'll move from rote counting in both ascending and descending order to counting with one-to-one correspondence. A set of objects (up to 5) will be given to your child and he or she will have to count the objects. Your child will then practice counting out a specific number of objects (up to 5) from a larger set.

After counting with one-to-one correspondence, we will move on to cardinal counting. Cardinality means that a child counting has an understanding that when counting a set of objects, the last number he or she says is the number of objects in the set.

Your child will be encouraged to name the unit of the objects being counted. For example, if your child is counting blocks and is asked how many blocks there are, your child will be encouraged to answer, "There are $\qquad$ blocks."

Your child will not be learning to identify numbers until Chapter 5 .

When using fingers for counting, your child will first be counting his or her left pinkie and saying "One," all the way to his or her left thumb and saying, "Five." This is intentional. Number paths and number lines are read from left to right.

The colors pink and brown will be added to the colors we have learned already.

## What can we do at home?

- Be sure your child knows the number sequence from 1 to 5 . Rote count up and down with your child. You can turn it into a game by counting 5 steps forward, stopping, then counting backward from 5 to 1 as you walk backward.
- Count small sets of objects (up to 5) with your child.
- When counting using fingers please start with your left pinkie as "one."
- Help your child develop visualization skills by telling stories with small sets of objects (up to 5) and having your child close his or her eyes to picture the objects.
- Read One Fish, Two Fish, Three, Four, Five Fish, based on Dr. Seuss's classic, One Fish, Two Fish, Red Fish, Blue Fish to your child.
- Send your empty egg cartons to class with your child.


## Vocabulary \& Mathematical Terms

- One
- Two
- Three
- Four
- Five
- Pair
- Purple
- Five-frame card
- Pink
- Brown

