

Math Activity: Count & Compare

Materials Needed:

Items found on nature walk or around the house
Various size containers

Learning Target(s):

Directions/Instructions:

Take a walk outside and collect items like pinecones or rocks. At home set out containers of different sizes. Ask your child “How many rocks will fit in each container” (you can do this for each of the different items you find). Have your child count the items as they put them in the container. Then ask questions like “which container has more?” then have them count the items again as they remove them.

Not Ready Yet:

Count with you child as you place the items in the containers showing them each piece as you place it in. Allow children to explore the items feely and practice putting items in and out of containers.

Need a Challenge:

Extend the child’s thinking by asking “how do you know there are more?”

Before counting and place have the child “hypothesize” (guess) how many they think will fit.

Have the student write the numbers of items in each container or draw a picture showing “more and less”.

Ready Rosie link:

[More or Less, Strawberries for a Picnic \(volume\)](#)

Visual/Examples:

