



Counting at School

Text by The Project Ready! Team





Hello, everyone! Guess what? Today is my very first day of preschool. I am so excited! My big sister went to preschool last year and now it's finally my turn. I can't wait to play and learn with my new friends.

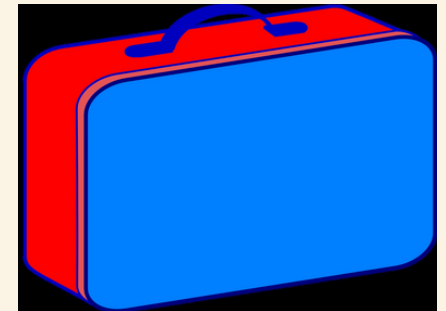


My mom walks with us to school. We have to stop before we cross a busy road. I point and shout, “One! There is one stop sign on our way to school.” I love to count. I wonder what new things I can count at school.





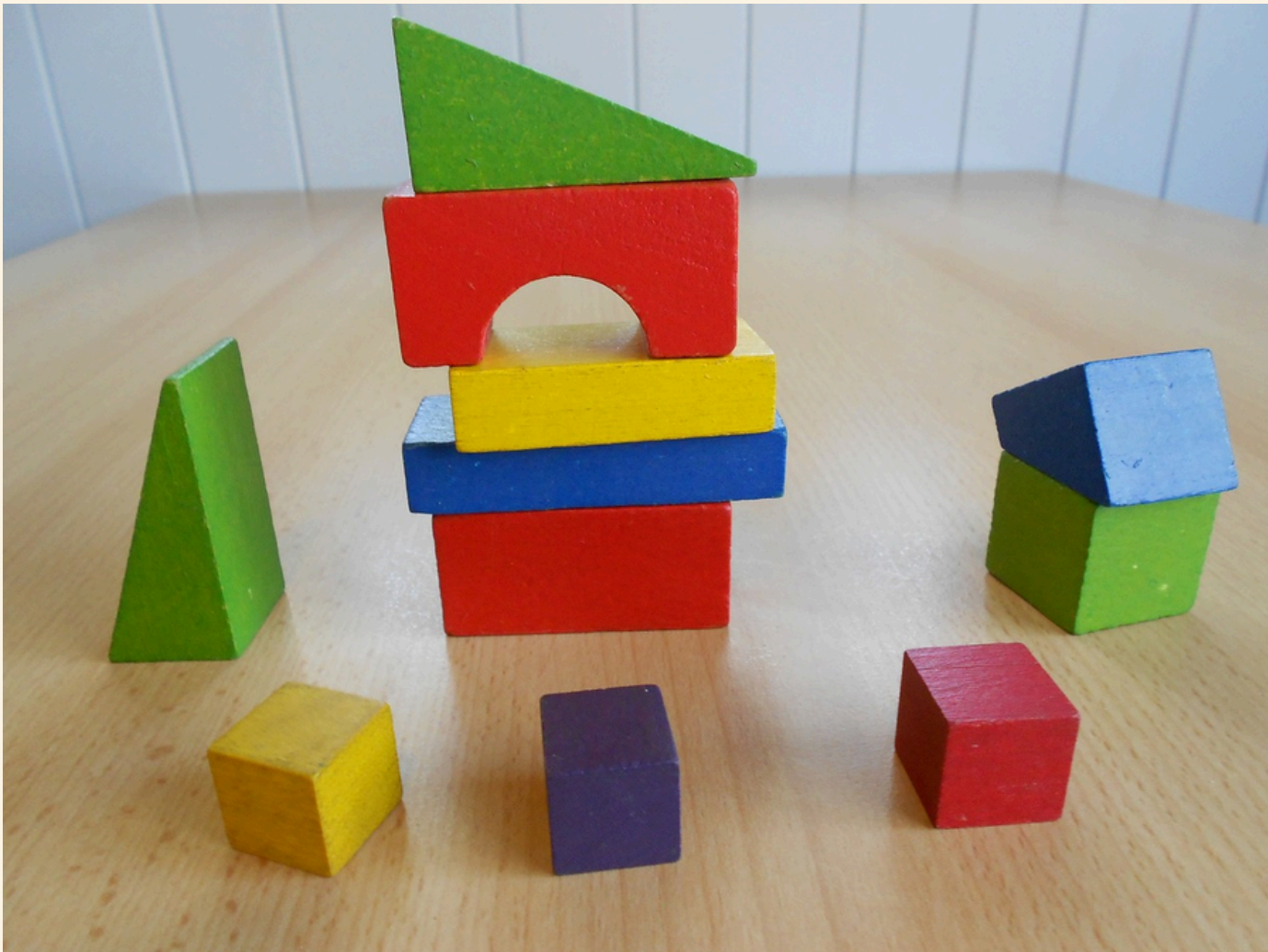
When we get to the school, my sister points to some stairs. “You have to go up those stairs and through the door,” she says. I’m so excited that I sing while I climb the steps. One, two. There are two steps outside my school.



My teacher is waiting inside. She shows me my hook. “Leave your things here,” she says. I count as I hang my backpack, jacket, and lunchbox. One, two, three. There are three things on my hook.



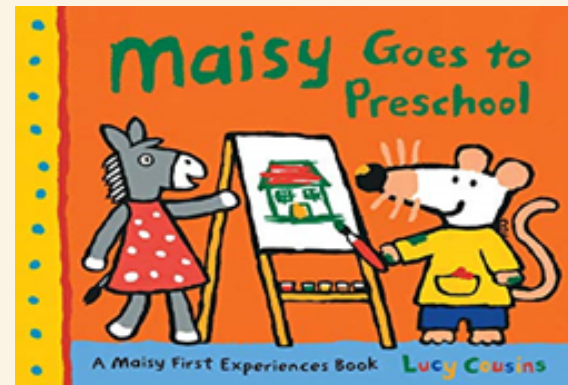
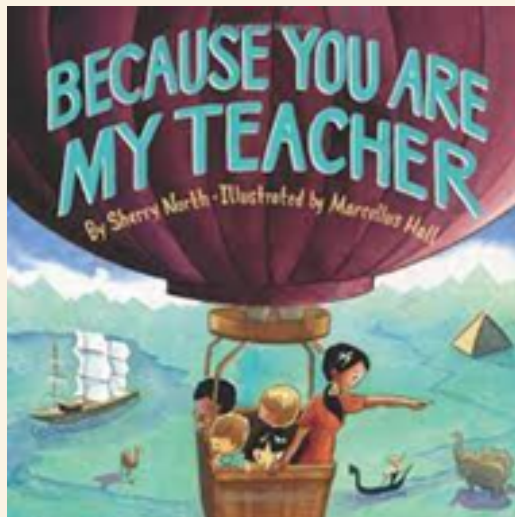
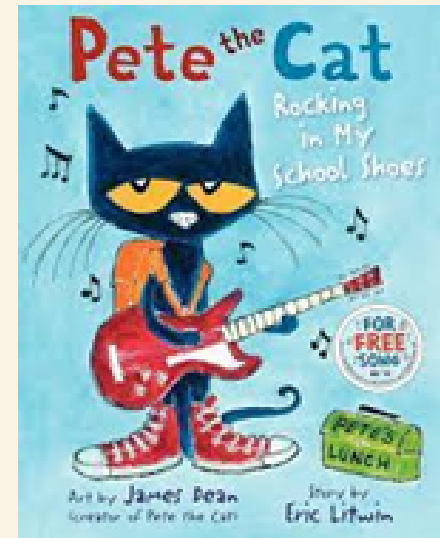
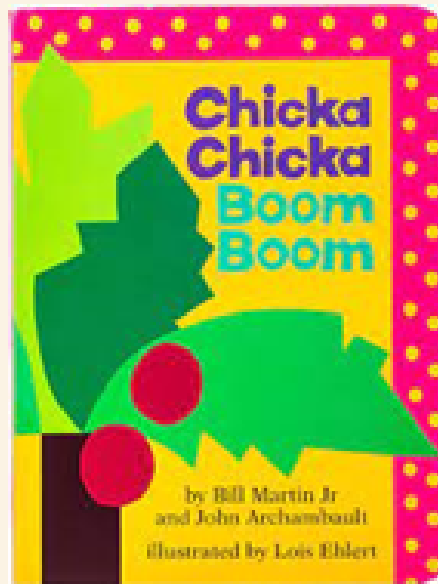
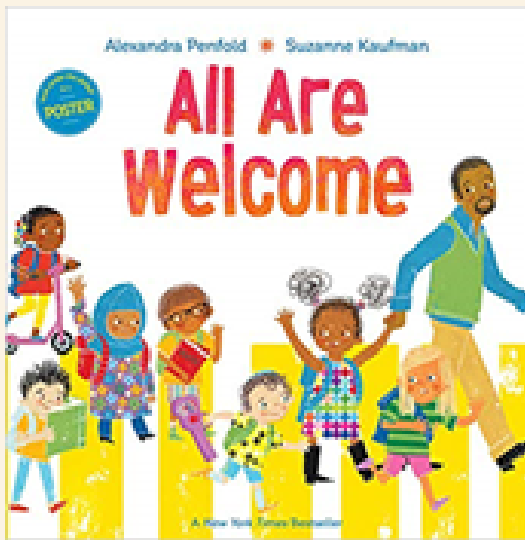
I go inside the classroom and see kids playing. One, two, three, four. There are four new friends here already.



My teacher helps me find some blocks to play with. I build a tall tower. One, two, three, four, five. There are five blocks in my tower. Which block should I add next? As I think, I look around my classroom and find more things to count.



I see windows. How many do I see? Help me count the windows in my classroom.



I see books on a shelf How many do I see? Help me count the books.



I count the chairs around my table. How many chairs are there?
Help me count the chairs.



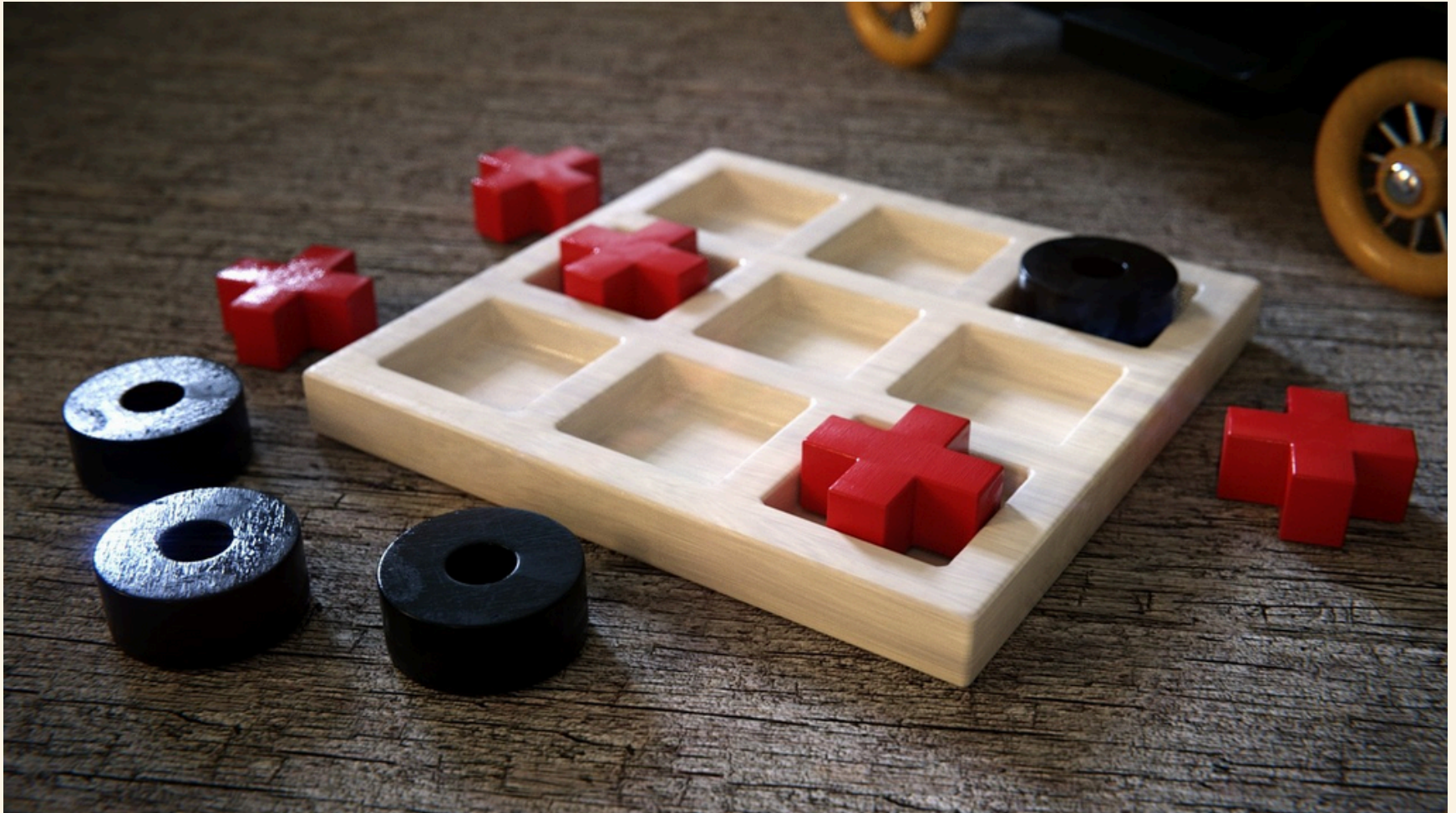
I want to play with something different. I look around my classroom and see markers and paper. I love to color. I count the markers. One, two, three, four, five, six. There are six markers.



I notice children playing with cars on a rug. I count the cars as they race them around. One, two, three, four, five, six, seven. There are seven toy cars. Maybe I will play cars after I finish coloring.



I hear a new voice. “Hi, I’m Adrian,” a girl says. “Can I color with you?” Adrian is wearing a beautiful necklace. I count the colorful beads. One, two, three, four, five, six, seven, eight. Adrian has eight beads on her necklace.



I see a new kind of game I've never seen before. I count the black and red pieces. One, two, three, four, five, six, seven, eight, nine. There are nine pieces. I wonder how you play this game. Maybe Adrian will play it with me.



My teacher says, “It’s time to clean up your toys and come sit on the rug.” I put my markers away and Adrian walks with me to the rug. As I go, I count my steps. One, two, three, four, five, six, seven, eight, nine, ten. I take ten steps to get to the rug.

As we sit quietly, I think about all the other things I can count at school.
Try it with me! Count these things at your school:

- the windows in your classroom
- the doors as you walk down the hall
- the stairs you climb up or down
- the trees you see outside
- the petals on a flower
- the swings or slides on your playground
- the toys on a shelf
- the leaves on a branch
- the toilets or sinks in the bathroom
- the legs on an insect
- your classmates
- the number of steps you take when lining up or visiting a new place
- the artwork in the halls

Happy counting!