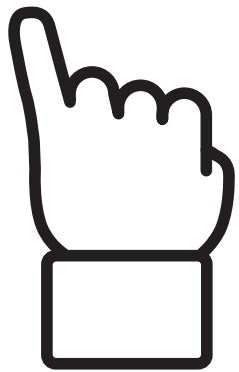
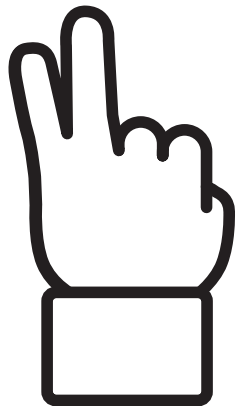


# Count the Math Way



**1**



**2**



**3**



**4**



**5**

## Count the Math Way Research Summary

Research shows that finger counting helps children learn because it helps them to see numbers in concrete ways (Jay & Betenson, 2017; Reeve & Humberstone, 2011). Jay and Betenson (2017) taught children through finger counting and number games (e.g., dominoes). When these two strategies were used together, children's skills improved significantly. Children showed less growth when just one of these strategies was used, finger counting alone or number games alone. These results suggest that children learn best when they are able to see numbers in a variety of ways.

Count the Math Way is one method for finger counting. This method is similar to using a number line: the child "creates their own number line" as they count with their fingers from left to right. While Count the Math Way can be effective, children who find finger counting to be helpful should use the method they understand best. Jo Boaler (Boaler & Chen, 2016) suggests that we ask children how they see the math. As children learn to count, they should represent numbers in many ways. This will help them understand the meanings of numbers.

## References

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