

**Math Activity 5**

Ages 3–6

**Egg Carton Math**

**PREVIEW:** In this activity, children practice counting out objects to match written numbers. In doing so, they also have an opportunity to practice fine motor skills and following directions.

**SKILL DEVELOPMENT:** Following directions, fine motor skills, expanding vocabulary, measurement and math concepts

**PREPARATION:**

1. Gather the materials needed for the activity. Wash the egg cartons thoroughly and allow them to dry.
2. Write the numbers 1–10 on small round stickers and attach them to the bottom of the “cups” inside of each egg carton. For the last two cups, reuse numbers one and two.
3. Count out the chips into the large cups. Each child will need at least 60 chips.
4. Try to identify any problems that might arise. For example, if some children are just learning to identify numbers and count, you could hold up a card with each number and have everyone say what it is. This will help them find the matching number in the egg carton. Counting out the appropriate number of chips together will help reinforce learning to match numbers to objects.

**MATERIALS**

- One egg carton for each child
- Small, round stickers
- Marker
- Bingo chips or other small items
- Large plastic cups

**PROCEDURE:**

1. Give each child one of the marked egg cartons and a cup full of chips.
2. Show the children the numbers at the bottom of each space in the egg carton. Have them put the same number of chips in each space as the number shown. Provide help, as needed.
3. Have the children count out the chips in each space in the egg carton as they remove them.

**EXTENSION ACTIVITY:**

- For older children, use the numbers 11–20 or simple addition problems, such as  $1+1$ . For younger children, use only the numbers 1–10.

