

I Can Count Anything!



*The understanding that everything and anything can be counted is called the **abstraction principle**. It is one of the essential counting principles that young children need to support future mathematical learning.*



With young children, building counting and number talk into everyday activities is much easier to do than you think!

Things to count include:

*food steps and jumps stairs
toys family and pets time*

Everything is countable...the list is endless!

Studies show that children who have exposure to early counting experiences do much better when they start school. Here's how you can help:

- Make counting part of your child's everyday activities both indoors and outdoors.
- Engage in play related to counting that increases their mathematical understanding.
- Use number words (one, two, first, second) or quantity words (bigger than, less than, half, some, more, equal) in your daily conversations.
- Play board games, sing counting songs and read counting books together.

Provided by: **Ontario Early Years Literacy Specialists**