

# The Early Years Count **Literacy** Connection



## Goodnight, Numbers

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Illustrated by Alicia Padron

Preschool edition  
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### Overview of Book

Join ten little ones as they prepare for bed in different ways, but all with numbers! On each page, the illustrations are filled with all sorts of items just begging to be counted. The simple rhyming text makes lovely little poems that "sum up" each page.

Genre: Concept/Fiction

### Vocabulary

Books are a rich source of words new to children. The front and back inside flaps of *Goodnight, Numbers* shows the number symbol as well as the word for the number in English, Spanish, French, German and Mandarin! For example:

One (Uno, Un, Eins, Yi)  
Two (Dos, Deux, Zwei, Er)

Each time you read the book, choose 2 or 3 numbers to highlight.

Use these numbers throughout the day, reminding the children, "That's a number from our story!"

### Connecting with the HighScope Curriculum

#### COR Advantage 1.5

Social And Emotional  
Development Item E  
(Building relationships with  
adults)

Physical Development  
And Health Item K  
(Personal care and healthy  
behavior)

Language, Literacy and  
Communication Item N  
(Phonological awareness)

Mathematics Item S  
(Numbers and counting)

### Reading Tips

Read this "go-to-sleep" book with a hushed tone. Children can be in your lap or sitting close, quieting down for rest time. Slowly turn the pages and ask questions in an upbeat whisper. For example, on the number 2 page, "Oh, look....there's one, two kitty bowls. Where are those kitties?"

There's no end to the counting opportunities as you read this book! Look past the pages as you find corresponding numbers connected to the children or in the room: two hands and two feet, five fingers on this hand, ten toes on both your feet! Four friends, six polka dots on your blanket, eight spider legs. How many bed-buddies will you be napping with?

Use the front/back flaps to offer children more chances to count and begin to tie the number name with its symbol.

### **Throughout the Routine**

Refer to the book throughout the day and use new vocabulary words in meaningful ways. Active engagement with the story helps the content come alive.

Have children choose numbers or roll a large number die to hop, jump, or do other gross motor movements at **Large Group Time**.

At **Small Group Time**, using open-ended materials encourage children to make groups of objects to count.

Children can set tables at **Mealtimes**, lay spots on the carpet for **Greeting Time**, or pass around objects to peers to encourage 1:1 correspondence throughout the day.

Model the use of tally marks for attendance at **Greeting** or **Arrival Time**.

### **Around the Room**

Highlight the book's content and build on the children's excitement in a variety of locations.

Provide baskets with open-ended materials in all interest areas for children to make sets, count and sort.

Post labeled photos of different numbers of children in different areas of the room. For example, a photo of four children in the **House Area** has the numeral 4, the word "four," and four tally marks to signify how many children.

Count the objects or materials children are using throughout the room—i.e., the blocks for their tower, the number of colors used in a painting.

### **Open-ended Questions**

Enhance active engagement and early critical thinking skills by asking open-ended questions. These questions encourage children to explain why or how things happen, make predictions, or brainstorm possibilities rather than give one "right" answer.

On each page of *Goodnight, Numbers* you will find opportunities to ask open-ended questions. For example:

Number 2 / Two: "Look, he's going to wash his hands! How do you think his hands got dirty?"

Number 6 / Six: "Look at the tent she and her Daddy built! What was she playing in there? How do you think all these bunny rabbits played?"

*For more information on how to use books and stories with children to enhance your curriculum, contact*  
***The Family Connection:***

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### **@ Home**

Since many of the children in our county will have this book at home, use it as a way to further the home-school connection. In your daily contact—in person or by text, email or other notes home—encourage families to share *Goodnight, Numbers* with their children. Here's a sample message:

Cuddle up with your child and enjoy *Goodnight, Numbers* together often! Each page is filled with multiple "sets" of familiar items to count, so new discoveries can be made with every reading. Counting can—and should—be fun. If your child loves dogs, count how many you see when you are out for a walk. Or count red cars. Count stair steps. Count the members in your family. Count the birds at the bird feeder or squirrels in the yard. Count cheerios and peas. Count toes and knees. At the back of *Goodnight, Numbers*, the author includes more math ideas for parents to use. Have fun counting!