

Fish Counting Activities

You will need:

A large container filled with plastic fish, a fishing net, fish pattern card downloaded from the website and optional: water

Talk to the children about the different colours of fish as they play. Discuss, shapes, lines, patterns colours with good adjectives to describe the fish such as fat, puffy, thin, sleek, rounded

Each child fishes out a scoop of fish.

How many fish have I 'caught'? Place each fish on the fish pattern card following the count sequence. The final number reached indicates how many fish 'caught'.

Find the Numicon shape that matches the number of fish caught. Can you find the shape on the number line?

You might want to record on a sheet how many fish are caught.

Who has the most fish? How many more? How many less?

How about fishing for the Numicon shapes? Pegs- then put them into the Numicon pattern to find out 'how many?'

Enjoy songs and stories such as the 'Seven foolish fishermen' or

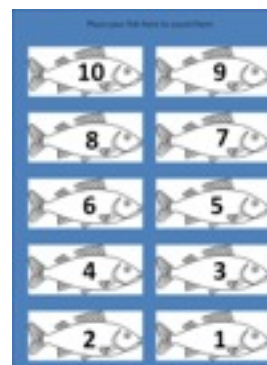
*One, two, three four five,
Once I caught a fish alive
Six, seven eight nine ten,
Then I threw it back again!*

Other activities with fish:

Make fish fingers to enjoy together!

Visit an aquarium or suggest to families for a weekend activity

Look at NZ fish that a staff member has brought in from a fish shop, or pet fish that are kept at home. Many centres or schools have their own fish tanks. Talk about the favourite fish and why.



[1st Steps with Numicon in the Nursery](#)

[Section 2: Mathematics in Water Play](#)

- Counting and patterns, Matching
- Activity 1

[Firm Foundation Kit](#)

Card 1b: Activity 2 Count and check

Card 2a: Getting to know the Numicon shapes

Card 3b: Getting to know the Numicon shapes

Activity 1: Bigger or smaller

Activity 2: Biggest or smallest

Extension: Fishing Game

Card 4a: Getting to know the Numicon shapes

Activity: Putting the fish in order of size

Card 5b: Getting to know the Numicon shapes and patterns

Activity 1: Copying Numicon patterns

Card 6a: Getting to know the Numicon shapes and patterns

Activity: Challenge

Card 6b: Giving the shapes their number names

Activity 1 and 2 Connecting shapes, patterns and names

Card 8a: Knowing the Shapes and Numerals

Challenge: Identifying the shapes, pattern and matching numerals

Card 8b: Knowing the shapes and numerals

Activity 3: Picture the pattern and Using Numicon

Card 10b: Addition

Using Numicon

Card 12b, 13a, 13b: Subtraction

Card 14a: Reasoning about numbers