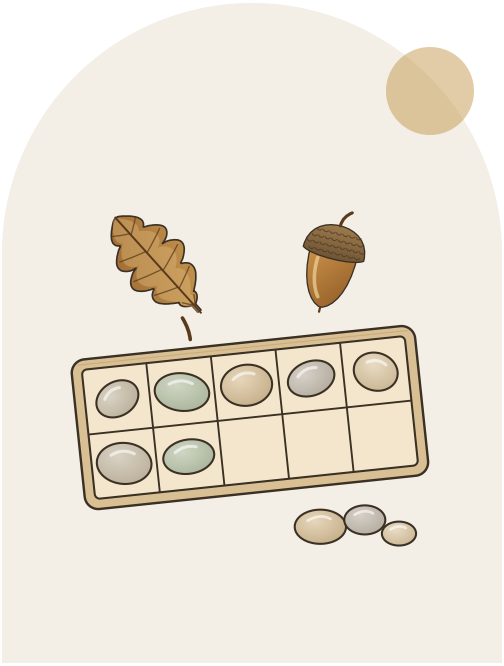
A SPARKATLAS PACK FOR LITTLE EXPLORERS

Nature Numbers 6 to 10

Count a forest floor, fill a pebble ten-frame and collect your own numbers on a walk.



INSIDE THIS PACK

02 Grown-up guide: one minute to read
03 Forest floor count, 6 to 10
04 Pebble ten-frame
05 Trace 6 to 10 from the dot
06 Collecting walk: find 6 to 10
07 Handful guess and make 10

YOU'LL NEED

10 to 20 pebbles, acorns or buttons

a crayon or pencil

a bag or box for finds

TIME

About 10 to 15 minutes a page

Our collecting walk

Date _____ Where we went _____

Today's weather · Circle one

○ sunny ○ cloudy ○ rainy ○ windy

AGES Sprout 2–3 Seedling 3–5 Sapling 5–7

Each activity page shows its band.

WHY THIS MATTERS

From 6 to 10, counting gets real: there are too many things to see at a glance, so children learn to keep track. Ten-frames, pebbles and real collections help them see 7 as 5 and 2 more, a big step toward adding.

Before You Start

A one-minute read for grown-ups.

How to use it (about 10 to 15 minutes a page)

1. **Fill a bag.**
   On a walk, gather 10 to 20 pebbles, acorns or leaves, or use buttons at home.
2. **Touch, move, count.**
   Move each thing to a new spot as you say its number, so nothing is counted twice.
3. **Think in fives.**
   Point out that 7 is 5 and 2 more. Two hands and a ten-frame both show it.
4. **Stop while it's fun.**
   One page is plenty. Come back another day.

Three ways to play

Sprout 2–3

Count to 6 together, point and name the finds, and drop pebbles into the big ten-frame.

Seedling 3–5

Count from 6 to 10, fill the ten-frame and trace the numbers with a finger.

Sapling 5–7

Write 6 to 10, guess before counting and find how many more make 10.

Little safety notes

Pebbles, acorns, seeds and buttons can be a choking risk. Stay close with under-3s and keep finds out of mouths. Only collect fallen things: leave living plants, mushrooms and animals where they are. Wash hands after the walk.

Printing tips

Page 1 is the cover. To save ink, print pages 2 to 7 only. Every page works in black and white, on Letter or A4.

Wonder out loud together

- Which pile looks bigger? Is it really bigger?
- If I show you 7 fingers, how many am I hiding?
- What could we count to 10 on the way home?
- Are 10 pebbles heavier than 10 leaves?

FOR GROWN-UPS

Ask "how do you know?" more often than "how many?". A child who explains that 8 is "a full row and 3 more" is building number sense, even if they still count one by one sometimes.

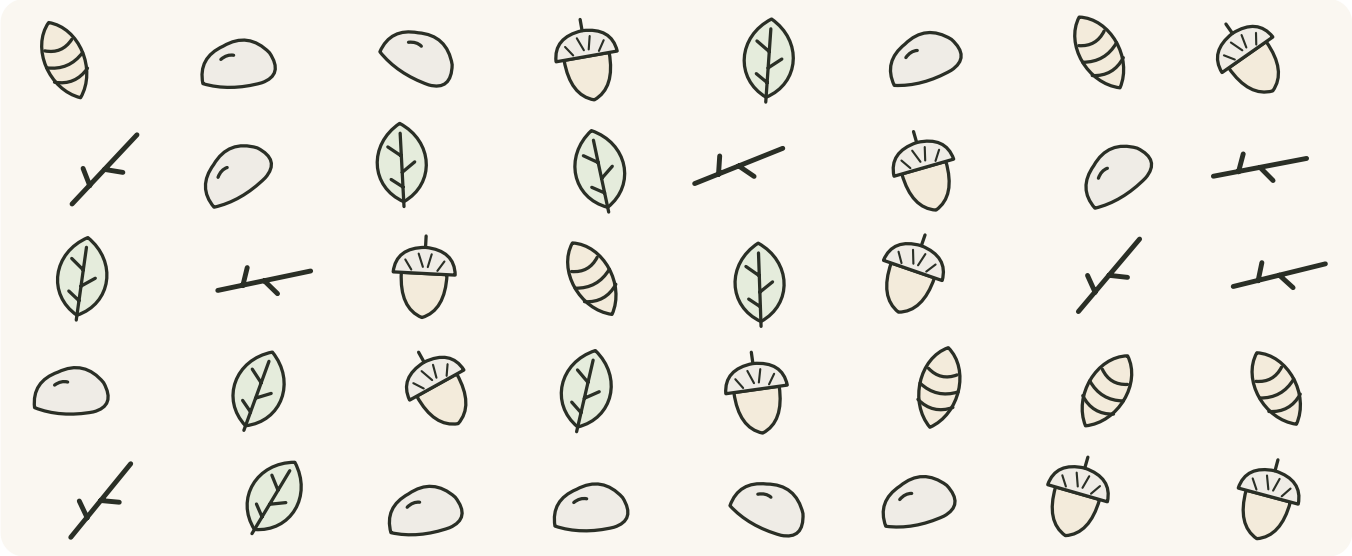
03

Forest Floor Count

Lots of treasures, all mixed up. Can you count them?

Find one kind at a time. Colour or cross off each one as you count it.

Then circle the number in the matching row.



pinecones	6	7	8	9	10	☐	Counted twice
leaves	6	7	8	9	10	☐	Counted twice
pebbles	6	7	8	9	10	☐	Counted twice
acorns	6	7	8	9	10	☐	Counted twice
sticks	6	7	8	9	10	☐	Counted twice

FOR GROWN-UPS

When things are scattered, the hard part is keeping track. Crossing off each one as you count is a trick children can use for life.

PLAY IT YOUR WAY

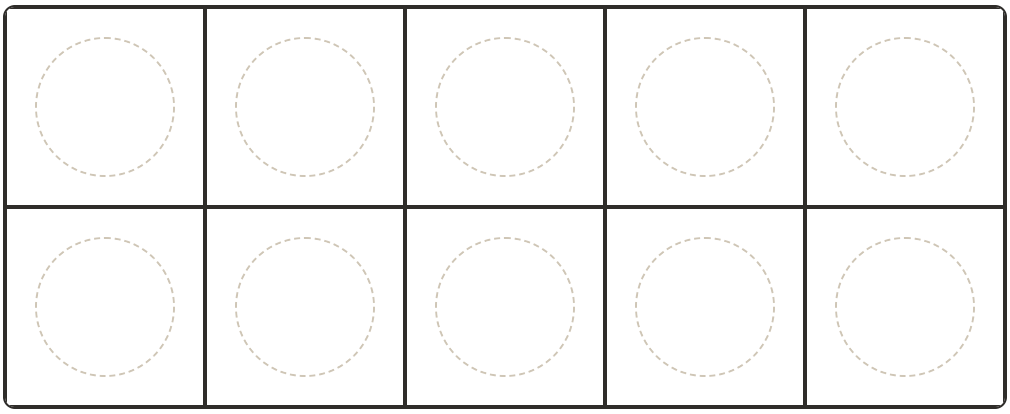
Easier: Count one kind together, touching each picture as you say its number.

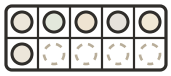
Stretch: Which kind has the most? How many more pebbles than pinecones?

Pebble Ten-Frame

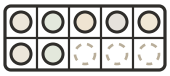
Ten spaces, two rows of five. Fill them with real pebbles.

Put one pebble in each space, starting at the top left.

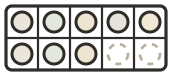


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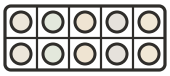
Put in 6 pebbles. How many spaces are empty?

2 

Fill the top row, then add 2 more. How many now?

3 

Make 8. How many more fill the frame?

4 

Fill every space. That's 10! Take 1 away. How many now?

5 

Make 9 a new way: start on the bottom row.

6 

Your number: make any number from 6 to 10. Can your grown-up say it without counting?

✦ Why two rows of five?

Two rows of five, like the fingers on two hands. A full row is 5, so 7 is a full row and 2 more. Seeing 5 and 10 at a glance makes bigger numbers easier.

FOR GROWN-UPS

A ten-frame lets children see numbers in fives and tens instead of counting one by one. That is the start of adding in their heads.

PLAY IT YOUR WAY

Easier: Drop in pebbles one at a time and count together. Stop at 6.

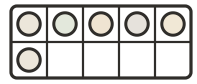
Stretch: Show a number for 2 seconds, then cover it. Can you say how many without counting?

Trace 6 to 10

Big numbers for little fingers, starting at the dot.

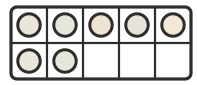
Start at the dot with the ring. Trace the big number, then the two small ones.

6 6 6 your turn



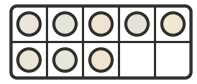
six

7 7 7 your turn



seven

8 8 8 your turn



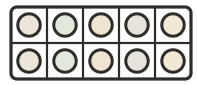
eight

9 9 9 your turn



nine

10 10 10 your turn



ten

Finger first, then crayon

Trace with a finger, then a crayon. Big moves come before small ones.

Make them outside

Lay each number in sticks or pebbles on the ground, then walk along it.

FOR GROWN-UPS

Writing numbers is a hand skill, not a counting one. Tracing big with a finger first builds the movement before the pencil.

PLAY IT YOUR WAY

Easier: Trace the big numbers with a finger or a wet paintbrush.

Stretch: Write each number in the box with no dashes. Point to the frame that shows 5 and 3 more.

06

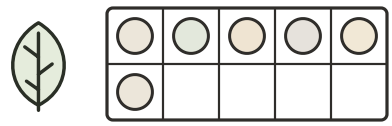
Collecting Walk

Fill your pockets with numbers.

Collect each pile on a walk. Colour one dot for every find.

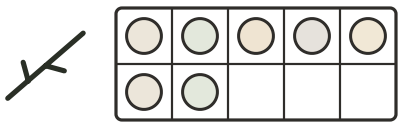
Only pick up fallen things. Leave living plants and animals where they are.

6 fallen leaves



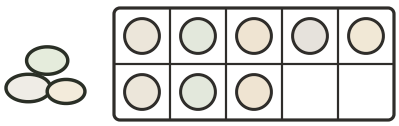
☐ Got them all!

7 small sticks



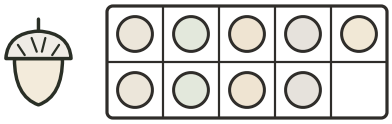
☐ Got them all!

8 pebbles



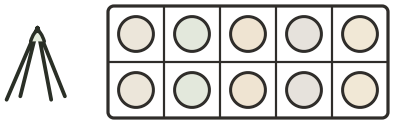
☐ Got them all!

9 acorns or seeds



☐ Got them all!

10 pine needles or grass blades



☐ Got them all!

Surprise find

What did you find lots of? Draw it here and write how many.

Line them up at home

Lay each pile in a long line. Which line is longest? Does the line with more things always win?

Look closely

Every adult insect has 6 legs. A spider has 8. Count legs from a distance, without touching.

FOR GROWN-UPS

Collecting an exact number means counting and stopping at the right moment, which is harder than counting what is already there.

PLAY IT YOUR WAY

Easier: Collect 6 of one thing together, counting each one into the bag.

Stretch: Pour two piles together. How many now? Count on from the bigger pile.

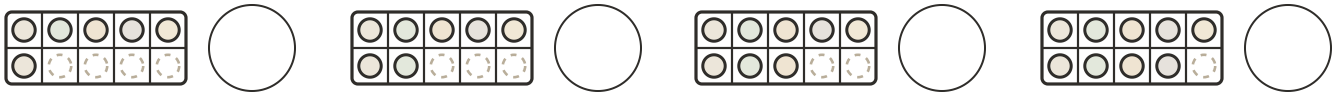
Handful Guess

How many fit in your hand? Guess first, then count.

Grab a handful. Write your guess, then count and write the real number.

HANDFUL	GUESS	COUNT	MORE THAN 10?
Pebbles in one hand			☐
Acorns or seeds in one hand			☐
Leaves in two hands			☐
A grown-up's handful of pebbles			☐

Make 10: how many more pebbles fill each frame?



Draw your biggest handful

Test it

Do more big or more small pebbles fit in one hand? Guess, then count.

	GUESS	COUNT
Big pebbles		
Small pebbles		

FOR GROWN-UPS

Guessing first, then checking, is how scientists work. Guesses get closer with practice, so praise the try, not the hit.

PLAY IT YOUR WAY

Easier: A grown-up writes the numbers; the child guesses and counts by touching.
Stretch: Work out how far off each guess was. Which guess was closest?