

## Lesson #4: Grouping 10's and 1's

by Chris Oster

### Dear Parents,

In math class, we have been working on using 10's and 1's to keep track when counting large numbers. When the children are counting groups of objects, I tell them that I would like for them to know at all times how many they have counted so far. If they are interrupted, can they go back and continue where they left off? We have discussed a number of strategies using 10's and 1's to keep track.

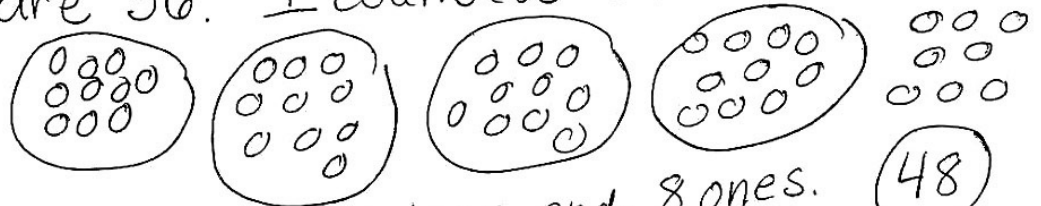
When I was a child, I think I learned this concept by counting pennies for my father. I'd make little stacks of 10 and count by the tens so that I could put the pennies in 50 cent paper rolls from the bank. Then I could figure out how many I had altogether.

I'm wondering if you could find a few groups of objects in your house to count with your child. The numbers can be between 50 and 100 to begin. Some suggestions are Legos, dried beans or macaroni, pennies, pebbles, and cereal. Just take a handful, guess how many you think there are to begin with and then organize into 10's and 1's to count.

Please help your child find 4 groups of objects to count at home and record the results on [a sheet of paper]. A sample is below to help get you started.

Sample:

I counted buttons. I guess there are 56. I counted like this:



There were 4 tens and 8 ones.  
I was close to my estimate!