

## Sort the Animals

Mix the animal pieces together and have children work to sort all the same species together.

## Animal Adventures

Encourage children to use the animals to tell progressive number stories. For example, "Once upon a time there was *one* bear. One day, the lonely bear was roaming the forest when he met *two* happy pigs. 'Where are you going?' roared the bear. 'We are going to visit our friends the *three* rabbits,' oinked the friendly pigs. 'Would you like to come, too?'" etc.

Children learn the alphabet with Animal Alphabet.



EI-1740 Animal Alphabet Activity Center

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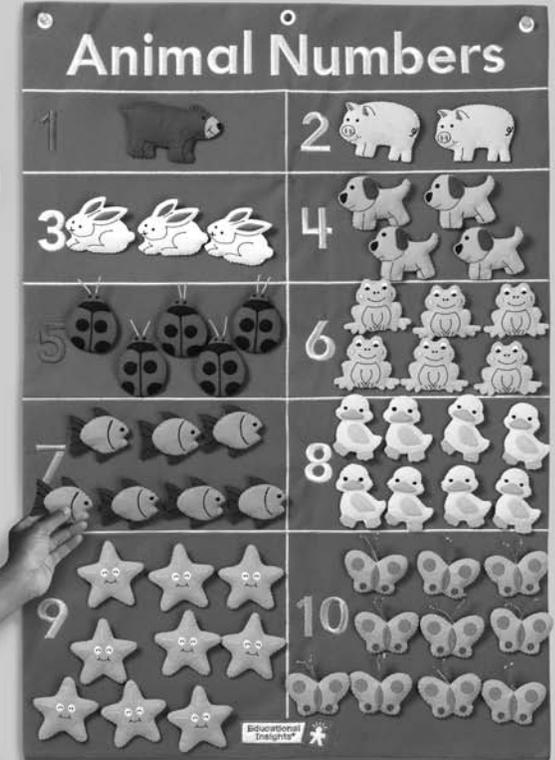
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# ANIMAL NUMBERS

## Activity Center

There are seven fish.



## Contents

- Cloth wall chart
- 55 embroidered animals:
  - 1 bear
  - 2 pigs
  - 3 rabbits
  - 4 dogs
  - 5 ladybugs
  - 6 frogs
  - 7 fish
  - 8 ducks
  - 9 sea stars
  - 10 butterflies

**WARNING:**  
CHOKING HAZARD—Small parts.  
Not for children under three (3) years.

Children attach the self-stick animals to the chart to practice matching numbers and sets, counting, comparing numbers, and more.

### Before You Begin

Introduce the chart to your class — reviewing the names of the different animals — bear, pig, rabbit, etc. Ask children to describe each animal, including its color, where the animal lives, the sound it makes, what it eats, and any other information children may know about it.

## Activities

### Just the Numbers

Display the chart without the animals in place so children can focus on the numbers and their names. Point to each number in sequential order and have children say its name. Then quiz children by pointing to the numbers in random order. If you wish, use the chart with the familiar nursery rhyme below to reinforce the number names in a fun way.

#### *One, Two, Buckle My Shoe*

One, two, buckle my shoe.  
Three, four, shut the door.  
Five, six, pick up sticks.  
Seven, eight, lay them straight.  
Nine, ten, a big fat hen.  
Let's get up and count again!

### Numbers and Sets

Display the chart with the animals in place. Review each number in sequential order, one at a time. Say the number name and count the number of animals associated with it. Then quiz children, asking them to identify the number of animals:

“How many dogs are there?”

“How many fish are there?”

“How many sea stars are there?” etc.

Then remove the animals, let children count each group, and then have children place them next to the correct numbers. For young learners the animals and numbers are color-coded to provide visual clues.

### More and Less

With the animals in place on the chart, work with children on comparing number quantities. Ask questions such as:

“Are there more rabbits or butterflies?”

“Are there more frogs or ducks?”

“Which is more — seven or eight?”

“Which is less — six or five?” etc.



Are there more frogs or ducks?

### Simple Addition and Subtraction

With the animals in place on the chart, work with children on simple addition and subtraction problems. For example: “There are ten butterflies. If five butterflies fly away, how many butterflies will be left?” Have a child come up, count the butterflies, remove five, and count the remaining butterflies to solve the problem.



If five butterflies fly away, how many will be left?

### Number Riddles

Tell children you are thinking of a secret number. You will give them clues, and they will try to guess the number. Here are some examples:

“I am thinking of the number that comes *after* three.”

“I am thinking of the number that comes *before* eight.”

“I am thinking of the number that comes *between* seven and nine,” etc.

If children are having a hard time solving the riddles, you can include the animal associated with the number. For example, you might say, “I am thinking of the number that comes after five. Frogs are hopping next to it.”

