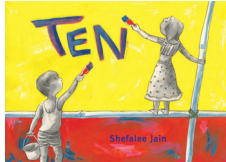


GUIDE TO USING THE BOOKS AND MATERIALS

Pictures they can feel and objects they can hold allow children to engage with material using the two systems that help early learning – VISION AND TOUCH. Using two different sensory systems to record an experience helps in focusing attention, enables processing and supports recall.

TEN



with
ten little dolls and two sets of
small cow bells in a bag



Activities for the early learner

- ❖ Use the dolls in the bag to count. All children learn number concepts best when they hold, feel and see quantity. Draw attention to early maths ideas like 'one more' as you read each page and the numbers increase.
- ❖ Encourage children to touch and count the heads on a page and make sure they have one doll for each head (one-to-one correspondence).

Activities for the advanced learner

- ❖ For children who already have a number concept, counting can be done with the pictures on the page. Let them experiment with counting by just using their hands on the page without the support of vision. They will develop marvellous attention and organisation skills as they have to learn to be organised in order to find all the children on the page.
- ❖ Encourage them to remember the position of the children on each page — building memory at this age is an invaluable gift.

Special concept

A great opportunity to draw the attention of six- or seven-year-old children to perspectives. Arrange the dolls in a semi-circle, facing away from the children, and have them notice how for some dolls they can see half the face, perhaps just an eye, and for some they can see only the backs of the heads. Have them look at the dolls from above to see how only the tops of the dolls' heads are visible. From whose perspective is the last page drawn?

Special early literacy skill

Scanning, whether with hands or eyes, is a key early reading skill requiring precise and organised movements that are best trained while reading. With the scatter of kids increasing on each page, and hidden challenges like the girl carrying her baby or the child standing back from the group, the book encourages the development of this skill while keeping all the fun.

