

Fish Sort and Count

Kit Number 21

Kit Contains

60 pieces in 12 shapes

Description plastic fish



Fun Fish Counters are the perfect hands-on tool for early math explorations. They can also be used for art, communication, and creative play. This bucket contains five each of twelve different fish species for a complete set of 60 counters.

SCHOOL SORT

Sort the Fun Fish Counters into schools! To begin, limit the number of species in the bucket to two (10 counters). Have the child draw fish out of the bucket one at a time and place them into same-fish "schools" on the table. After each successful School Sort, return the fish to the bucket and add one more species (5 counters). Continue until all fish counters are used for the School Sort.

FISH COUNT

Count and add the Fun Fish Counters as markers. Make a set of cards numbered from 1 to 9. Have the child count out the correct number of fish counters for each card. Make a second set of cards numbered 1 to 9. Draw one card from each set and find the sum of the two numbers using the fish counters. Repeat this activity with different number combinations.

MORE SORTING

Sort the Fun Fish Counters using a simple Venn Diagram. Draw two interlocking circles as shown, one blue and the other green.

Collect one counter of each of the twelve species. Have the child place fish with green coloring in the green circle and fish with blue coloring in the blue circle. Ask, "Where do you put the fish that have both green and blue coloring?" (In the region where the circles overlap.) "Where do you place the fish that have neither green nor blue?" (Outside both circles.)

There are many characteristics a child can use to sort the counters, depending on their observation skills.

Here are a few:

COLORS: red, orange, yellow, green, blue, violet, black, brown, or white?

PATTERNS: stripes, polka dots, or no pattern at all?

STRIPES: top to bottom, or end to end?

SKIN: rough or smooth?

SNOUTS: pointed or rounded?

BODY SHAPES: long, oval,

or round?

TOP FINS: sawlike, flat, or long?

TAILS: fanned, v-shaped, curled,

or triangular?

FISH OUT OF WATER GAME

Use the Fun Fish Counters to build communication and listening skills! Play Fish Out of Water with three to five players. One player is the "caller." Place one of each fish in a paper bag for the caller. Spread the

remaining counters on the table in front of the remaining players. One at a time, the caller reaches into the bag and selects a fish.

Without showing it to the other players, the caller begins

describing features on the fish, such as "The fish has a pointed

nose, a white stomach, a yellow body..." until one player says,

"Fish out of water!" and grabs the matching fish from the pile.

If the player chooses the correct fish, he or she keeps the fish. If

the player is incorrect, the fish is returned to the pile, that player

sits out the rest of the turn. The caller then continues to describe

the fish. The player who

correctly identifies the fish keeps it until the end of the game. The

caller returns the described fish to the bag and selects another.

Play continues until one player has correctly pulled five fish out of the "water."

CAMOUFLAGE

Fun Fish Counters can be used in a combined art/science lesson about camouflage. The color patterns in most fish often help to hide, or camouflage, them from other fish that might want to eat them.

Green and brown fish can more easily hide in seaweed. Orange, red,

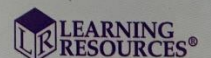
and yellow fish are less visible when swimming near coral. Have

children select a single fish counter, draw and color an

underwater world where the fish can "hide." Place the counter on

the drawing. Select a different counter and place it on the

drawing as well. Which is easier to see?



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