## Thinksheet

## Rising Kindergarten

## Island Counting 123 By Frane Lessac

Caregiver Connections: Kindergarten is a time where your student will interact with many new ideas, including diverse literature, working with numbers, and using their imaginations to create brilliant artwork. This text is an example of all these things!

Before Reading: Use a "Picture Walk" to preview the book together in the following ways:

- Look through and discuss the illustrations, noting your favorites and asking your student to make predictions about what they think the story will be about.
- Ask your student if they have any questions or wonder about something they have seen and discuss before you begin reading.

During Reading: Invite your student to sit by you as you read together and be sure that $\mathbf{s}$ (he) can see the words and pictures on each page, whether or not they can read the words.
(Clue: There are varying levels of reading ability for kindergarten students!)

- If your student is an emerging, or beginning reader, it may be best for them to listen as you read the story and follow along as you point to each word and read the text with correct pauses and expression.
- If your student is ready to begin reading the story with your support, focus on mastery of high frequency words: in, the, a, on, with, up, and it, which can help prepare them for beginner level books.


## After Reading: Focus on the math aspects and counting opportunities within the story.

- Have your student trace the featured number on each page with their finger as you read and say the name of that number.
- Practice counting the figures on each page together and pointing to each one as you count.
- Look at the final two pages of the story or the back cover, count out the numbers one through ten while pointing to the digits pictured there, I-IO. Guide your student to make discoveries inside each number shape! Can they identify and count the items illustrated inside each number?

These resources were prepared by GELF's Educator Advisory Council, a group of 28 Tennessee educators, to encourage engagement with the K-3 Home Library books distributed to students over the summer.


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Count and Match: To practice counting skills, draw a line from each number to the object(s) with an equal number. (Example: Point to the number "I" and say "one." Ask your student to look for a picture of one object by itself and identify it, "one beachball." Guide your student to draw a line diagonally between the number " $I$ " and the picture of one beach ball. Encourage them to work independently as they are able to continue to count groups of objects and draw a line to the matching number.)


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## Extension at Home:

- Practice counting from one to ten and look for ways for your student to count everyday objects. (Example: five pineapples in a story illustration, four crayons on the table, or two people reading together!)
- Practice matching quantities to a number. (Example: show or write the number 7 and have your student count out seven objects to match the number they see, such as pennies in their savings, forks in a drawer, or pieces of candy to enjoy as reading rewards!)


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