

Counting Arrangements Game

Prior Knowledge:

Child should have prior knowledge of the following before doing this work:

- Number Rods
- Counting objects through 10

Materials:

- Small objects of same color and shape (i.e. buttons, beads, cereal bits, etc.)
- Optional: small number card set found on the <http://www.montessoriforlearning.com>

** This activity can be for one child, or multiple children.

Instructions:

1. Invite a child to the lesson after they have the prior knowledge as listed above.
2. Place a number of the objects on the workspace (it can be any number). Ask the child how many objects are on the workspace.
3. Keep the same number of objects on the workspace, but rearrange them in a different order or haphazardly on the workspace. Ask the child how many objects are on the workspace.

The purpose is to allow the child to see that the number of objects does not change just because they are arranged in a different way.

For a variation, have the child obtain a number card that symbolizes the number of objects in the workspace. Have them take it back before you rearrange the objects – then have them retrieve the number card again.