




December



<p>ODE TO A CANDY CANE by Anonymous</p> <p>Stripes of red on cane of white, Oh, what a very pretty sight. Nothing else is ever quite as sweet as peppermint delight.</p> 	<p>NUMBER OF THE MONTH</p> <p>5</p> <p>Most people have 5 fingers on each hand and 5 toes on each foot. Trace your hand on paper, and count those fingers! 1, 2, 3, 4, 5!</p>	<p>CLEVER MATH</p> <p>I counted aloud: 3, 1, 2! Is that the correct order? Count from 1 to 3 <u>correctly</u>, loudly and proudly!</p> <p>1 2 3</p>	<p>MATH STORY</p> <p>Mateo sees 5 birds in a tree. Then another one flies in! How many birds are there now? Act out your solution!</p> 	<p>CREATIVE MATH</p> <p>Many people decorate for winter holidays. Design decorations that use shapes. Are you using squares, circles, or other shapes? How many? Get creative!</p>	<p>COUNT @ HOME</p> <p>How many cans are in the pantry? Count carefully! Draw a picture of what you counted. Can you re-order them by height?</p> 	
<p>SHAPE OF THE MONTH</p> <p>HEXAGON</p>  <p>A hexagon is a 6-sided shape with straight sides. Beehives are made of hexagons! Can you find them anywhere else?</p>	<p>CONSTRUCTION ZONE</p> <p>Use <u>6</u> pretzel sticks to create hexagons. Change the lengths of the pretzel sticks to make different sizes and styles. Not all hexagons are identical!</p>	<p>FAMILY SURVEY</p> <p>Collect some data by asking people this question: <u>Do you prefer peppermints or candy canes?</u> What were your results, and could you draw to share your data?</p>	<p>QUICK DOTS</p>  <p>QUICK! How many dots do you see? After that quick look, revisit: How can you be sure you're right?</p>	<p>HAMSTERS IN A CAGE</p> <p>Count 5 pennies ("hamsters"). Hide 2 under a cup ("cage"). Say: <u>I see three hamsters. How many are in their cage?</u> Count to check!</p> 	<p>MATH IN LITERATURE</p> <p>THE SOUND OF SILENCE</p>  <p>Why did Yoshio count <u>3, 2, 1</u> at the beginning? This story is set in Tokyo, Japan. Can you find that on a map? Is it near or far from where you are?</p>	
<p>START WITH/ GET TO</p>  <p>In a place you can be SILLY, start with 0 and count up to 5 in a LION'S ROAR! Then count back from 5 to 0 in a whisper. Use your fingers (or toes!) to keep track.</p>	<p>ORGANIZE & COMPARE</p>  <p>How many full-size candy canes long is your body? What if you used mini candy canes? How does changing the <u>tool</u> change the <u>measurement</u>?</p>	<p>FIVE FRAME</p>  <p>Count the red dots in the five-frame. What's one more? One less? How many more in the frame to make five red dots?</p>	<p>ESTIMATE!</p> <p>Take a look at your bookshelf. Estimate: How many books do you think are there? After you make your estimate. Count! Were you close?</p>	<p>SHAPE HUNT</p>  <p>This month's shape is the hexagon. How many hexagons can you find inside and outside? How do you KNOW it's NOT a square?</p>	<p>COUNT IN NATURE</p> <p>Take the counting outside! Find:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 5 small rocks • 5 brown items • 5 birds 	<p>SIMON SAYS...</p>  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Skip <u>around</u> in a <u>circle</u>. • Take 5 giant steps <u>toward</u> the door. • Hide <u>under</u> a blanket!
<p>SAME & DIFFERENT</p>  <p>Take a look at these items. What do they have in common? What's different?</p>	<p>THINK DISTANCE</p>  <p>Look around. Do you see something that's <u>close</u> to you? How about something <u>closer</u> than that? <u>Farther</u> away?</p>	<p>MATH @ THE STORE</p>  <p>Find a bunch of <u>exactly</u> <u>five</u> bananas. Can you find a bunch with <u>less than 5</u>? How about <u>more than 5</u>? Two bunches that <u>total 5</u>?</p>	<p>PATTERN TIME</p> <p>Find items around your home (socks, toys, marker tops...) and organize them in this color pattern:</p> <p><u>red, green, red, green...</u></p>	<p>MATH HANDS</p> <p>On your fingers, show FIVE. Then show FIVE another way. Count to prove that either way, it's still FIVE.</p>  <p>1, 2, 3, 4, 5!</p>	<p>LET'S TALK MATH</p> <p>How many fingers do you have on your right hand? How many on your left? How many toes on your right and left feet? Isn't your body fascinating? Lots of fives!</p>	<p>5 LITTLE MONKEYS</p> <p>5 little monkeys jumping on the bed. 1 fell off and bumped her head. Mama called the doctor, and the doctor said: "No more monkeys jumping on the bed!" (Repeat & count down) If 3 monkeys are <u>on</u> the bed, how many are <u>off</u>?</p>

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