Chapter 1
Counting Strategies

This chapter of *Think Math!* introduces children to counting things (such as dots, steps, objects, spaces on a number line, intersections, and combinations) and ways (such as arrangements of colors in a tower and finding number pairs with a sum of ten). Children use patterns and arrangements to explore counting principles. They see that patterns of shapes or objects can repeat or grow and that visual patterns can relate to numbers.

Vocabulary

repeat

This pattern repeats.

grow
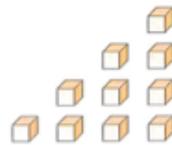
The pattern grows.

number sentence

$4 + 2 = 6$
$9 - 2 = 7$
$5 \times 2 = 10$

number line

0 1 2 3 4 5 6
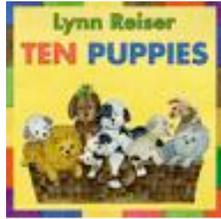
In the Car

★ practice counting forward and backward by 2's, 5's, 10's (beginning with a number not divisible by 10)

★ play Hidden Fingers: show fronts of hands, put up a few fingers and ask how many fingers are up and how many are down

Family Fun

What's My Number?

Work with your child to play a game called *What's My Number?* Your child will play this game later in this chapter.

- **Tell your child you are thinking of a number from 1 to 8.**

- **Your child asks up to four *yes/no* questions to find the secret number. Each question should get rid of several numbers at once. Some good questions to ask are: "Is your number odd?" or "Is your number less than 5?"**

  2   4
  1 3
  5 7
  6   8

- **After each question, your child crosses off the numbers that have been eliminated.**

- **Your child wins the game if he or she guesses the secret number with up to 4 questions.**
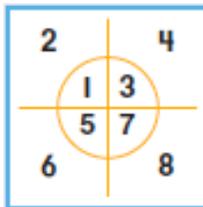
Number Puzzle

Work with your child to complete the number puzzle.

Across

1. $7 + 7 =$ ____

3. 170, 180, 190, _____

4. $1 + 2 + 3 + 4 + 5 =$ __

6. 15, 17, 19, ____

Down

1. 8, 10, ___, 14

2. 100, 200, 300, ____

5. 40, 45, 50, ____

7. $8 + 8 =$ _____