

Multicultural Math Books

Author	Year	Title	ISBN	Math	Annotation
Blackstone, S.	1996/ 2006	<i>Grandma Went to Market/My Granny Went to Market</i>	190523662X	counting	Grandma travels around the world picking up items, from one flying carpet to ten ribbons for a pony's mane, representative of the places she visits. Different versions have different illustrators.
Charles, F.	1997	<i>Caribbean counting book</i>	1901223868	counting	This title contains a collection of counting rhymes from the islands of the Caribbean, collected by a Trinidadian storyteller with vivid collage art.
Crane, C.	2011	<i>Round Up: A Texas Number Book</i>	158536133X	counting	This colorful and richly informative pictorial teaches children numbers and math concepts by using historical figures and places and things specific to Texas as examples.
Evans, L. & Roche, D	2004	<i>Can you count ten toes?: Count to 10 in 10 different languages</i>	618494871	counting	In this dynamic counting book you can learn to count in ten different languages: Spanish, French, Japanese, Chinese, Korean, Tagalog, Russian, Hindi, Hebrew, and even Zulu!
Feelings, M.	1992	<i>Moja Means One</i>	140546626	Counting	Primarily a Swahili counting book, Moja Means One is also meant to be a gift of heritage, a glimpse of what is unique about East Africa
Grossman, V.	1995	<i>Ten Little Rabbits</i>	811810577	counting	Weaving, fishing, and storytelling are all part of this spirited book that celebrates Native American traditions as it teaches young children to count from one to ten. [NOTE: Some Native Americans consider this book offensive because it stereotypes the tribes as being the same.]
Haskins, Jim	1987	<i>Count Your Way Through the Arab World</i>	876144879	counting	Uses Arabic numerals from one to ten to introduce concepts about Arab countries and Arab culture.
Kosaka, F.	2001	<i>Let's count the raindrops</i>	670896896	counting	Brimming with fun-to-read, easy-on-the-ears poems, Let's Count the Raindrops is just right for very young listeners. The poems range from silly to evocative

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Krebs, L.	2004	<i>We All Went On Safari</i>	184148119X	counting	Youngsters will learn numbers from one to ten in English and Swahili as Mosi, Tumpe, Arusha, and other friends count African wildlife. Attractive borders frame vibrant watercolor spreads of different types of animals, including giraffes, elephants, zebras, and lions. The rhyming singsong verse, beginning with the refrain 'We all went on a safari' lends itself to a fun read-aloud.
Linden, A.	1995	<i>One Smiling Grandma</i>	014055341X	counting	Linden's simple but captivating counting rhymes gently squire us through a young girl's explorations of her island home, the sights and sounds of which leap forth from each page in Russell's dynamic paintings. From "one smiling Grandma" to "ten sleepy mongooses," young readers will enjoy counting their way through this colorful book.
Louis, C. & Sellier, M.	2008	<i>What the Rat Told Me</i>	735822204	counting	When the Great Emperor of Heaven invites the animals to visit him at sunrise, the rat promises to wake the cat at dawn. Instead, the rascal lets the cat sleep, rides atop the ox, and leaps off to be the first in line for the viewing, followed by the ox, the tiger, and nine other animals. The Emperor greets and assigns each creature a year in the 12-year cycle of the Chinese zodiac. When the cat discovers the rat's ruse, their friendship dissolves, hence cats chase rats to this day.
Manis, C.	2002	<i>One leaf rides the wind</i>	142401951	counting	Filled with lush illustrations, this counting book reveals both the pleasure and the tranquility of the Japanese garden, while introducing haiku poetry, with eleven poems that are simple and easy to follow. Follow along as the young girl explores the beauty of the garden, and discover the fun of haiku.
Morales, Y.	2003	<i>Just a Minute!: A Trickster Tale and Counting Book</i>	811837580	counting	Framed in a Mexican context, Yuyi has created a funny and attractive character that represents the topic of death in a symbolic way. Señor Calavera visits Grandma Beetle because it is time for her to travel with him, but she has several things to do first, described numerically from 1 to 10

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Onyefulu, I.	1999	<i>Emeka's Gift</i>	140565000	counting	Photographs taken in a village in southern Nigeria are assembled in a counting story. On the way to visit his grandmother, Emeka sees people and objects--in groups numbering from 2 to 10.
Shea P. & Weill, C.	2003	<i>Ten Mice for Tet (Vietnam)</i>	811834964	counting	A group of mice prepare for Tet, the Vietnamese New Year. The mice plan parties and a feast to celebrate.
Walton	1996	<i>How many, How many, How many</i>	1564026566	counting	A combination of riddles, nursery rhymes, and Trivial Pursuit gives this nifty counting book its special twist
Wise, W.	2004	<i>Ten Sly Piranhas, A Counting Story in Reverse</i>	142400742	Counting	Ten sly piranhas are swimming in a river, but one at a time they disappear, until there is only one left. Now that this proud overeater is the only surviving piranha, he is confident that he can eat anybody. But while he may be the cleverest fish in the river, he is no match for the giant crocodile lurking on the bank.
Dee, R.	1990	<i>Two Ways to Count to Ten: A Liberian Folktale</i>	805013148	counting, skip counting	A clever tale about the jungle beasts learning to count, showing once again that being strong is not the same as being smart.
Winter, J.	2008	<i>Roberto Clemente: Pride of the Pittsburgh Pirates</i>	1416950826	data analysis	This noteworthy picture-book biography celebrates the Hall of Famer's accomplishments, along with the character and courage that have made him a role model to so many fans.
Birtha, B.	2010	<i>Lucky Beans</i>	807547824	estimation	Young readers thus will discover fun, realistic applications for the estimating and multiplication skills they learn in their classrooms.
Brumbeau, J.	2001	<i>The Quiltmaker's Gift</i>	439309107	geometry	A quiltmaker helps a selfish king learn that giving is the true secret to happiness. The heartwarming, strongly moral tale supports important values, and the detailed illustrations, featuring dozens of lovingly rendered quilt patterns offer hours of delight.
Flourney, V.	1985	<i>The Patchwork Quilt</i>	803700970	geometry	Tany's grandmother is making a special quilt with pieces of clothes from the whole family.
Freeman, A.	1995	<i>A Cloak For The Dreamer</i>	590489879	geometry	In an entertaining introduction to the concept of geometry, a tailor's son attempts to create a cloak with only circles, with unfortunate results, and then works with his brothers to find a shape that works.

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Hale, C.	2012	<i>Dreaming Up: A Celebration of Building</i>	1600606512	geometry	A collection of concrete poetry, illustrations, and photographs that shows how young children's constructions, created as they play, are reflected in notable works of architecture from around the world. Includes biographies of the architects, quotations, and sources.
Hopkinson, D.		<i>Sweet Clara and the Freedom Quilt</i>	679874720	geometry	Clara sees how she can use the cloth in her scrap bag to make a map of the land--a freedom quilt--that no master will ever suspect.
Polacco, P.	2001	<i>The Keeping Quilt</i>	153052120	geometry	An immigrant Jewish family from Russia creates a family heirloom quilt from the family's clothing.
Stroud, B.	2007	<i>The Patchwork Path: A Quilt Map to Freedom</i>	763635197	geometry	Now that Hannah's papa has decided to make the run for freedom, her patchwork quilt is not just a precious memento of Mama — it's a series of hidden clues that will guide them along the Underground Railroad to Canada.
Tompert, A.	1997	<i>Grandfather Tang's Story</i>	517885581	geometry	Here's a folktale with a twist: Tompert uses tangrams, a traditional "visual aid" employed by Chinese storytellers, to spin a tale about two shape-changing fox fairies.
Woodson, J.	2005	<i>Show Way</i>	399237496	geometry	A Show Way is a quilt with secret meanings, and the image works as both history and haunting metaphor in this exquisite picture book. Based on Woodson's own history, the unforgettable story tells of African American women across generations, from slavery and the civil rights movement to the present.
Lipp, F.	2008	<i>Running Shoes</i>	1580891756	measurement	Sophy, who lives in modern-day Cambodia, is unable to attend school because it is eight kilometers away, and she has no shoes. After a census-taker from the city befriends her, sending her a pair of running shoes, Sophy courageously runs the distance to attend classes.

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Lewin, T.	2006	<i>How Much?: Visiting Markets Around the World</i>	068817552X	money	How much for... fried bananas in Bangkok, a mandolin in New Jersey, llama-wool ponchos in Peru, or a camel in Cairo? With Caldecott Honor artist Ted Lewin's richly colored and detailed landscapes, how much? takes readers deep into the heart of bustling marketplaces all around the world
Anno, M.	1999	<i>Anno's Magic Seeds (other Anno math books are available and not listed)</i>	698116186	multiplication	A gift from a wizard makes Jack's fortune grow by ones and twos, then threes and fours, then faster and faster, challenging you to keep track of his riches.
Demi	1997	<i>One Grain Of Rice: A Mathematical Folktale</i>	059093998X	multiplication	A resourceful village girl outsmarts a greedy raja, turning a reward of one grain of rice into a feast for a hungry nation.
Kirk, E.	2011	<i>Human Footprint: Everything You Will Eat, Use, Wear, Buy, and Throw Out in Your Lifetime</i>	1426307675	number sense	What is your human footprint? Well, it's 13,056 pints of milk, 28,433 showers, 12,888 oranges, 14,518 candy bars, and \$52,972 worth of clothes, all in one lifetime.
Laminack, L.	2008	<i>Jake's 100th Day of School</i>	156145463X	number sense	To celebrate the 100th day of school, everyone is bringing collections of 100 things, but Jake is so excited that he leaves home without his book of 100 family photos. His principal steps in to help him create a brand new collection--100 books.
Marsh, L.	2010	<i>National Geographic Readers: Great Migrations Amazing Animal Journeys</i>	1426307411	number sense	This reader is an introduction to the treacherous trek of the zebra, walrus, and Christmas Island red crab to overcome obstacles that include hungry cheetahs, stinging yellow crazy ants, and even their fellow species to make the often impossible journey of their lives.
Pearson, E.	2002	<i>Ordinary Mary's Extraordinary Deed</i>	879059788	number sense	Can one good deed from an ordinary girl change the world? It can when she's Ordinary Mary--an ordinary girl from an ordinary school, on her way to ordinary house--who stumbles upon ordinary blueberries.
Zaslavsky		<i>Count on Your Fingers African Style</i>	863162509	number sense	This beautifully illustrated picture book takes readers on a tour of the markets, showing the traditional finger counting styles of various African peoples.

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Chocolate, D.	2010	<i>Kente Colors (can be paired with online activity at http://africa.si.edu/exhibits/kente/design2.htm)</i>	780785886	patterns	The traditional kente cloth of the Ashante people of Ghana stretches to become the stuff of story hour. The cloth's vivid tones (red, yellow, blue, black and gold) are explored for their symbolic values and matched with scenes from African and African American culture and daily life.
Cressy, J.	2002	<i>Can You Find It?: Search and Discover More Than 150 Details in 19 Works of Art</i>	810932792	patterns	Nineteen paintings from New York City's Metropolitan Museum of Art were chosen for careful scrutiny in this book. Next to each striking, full-color reproduction is a list of items to search for: e.g., "2 cats, 6 lotus blossoms, 3 eye amulets," etc., for a painting from ancient Egypt. The works of art are from around the globe and range from illuminated manuscripts to 20th-century canvases.
Cohlene	1996	<i>Quillworker</i>	816723583	patterns, geometry	This enchanting myth of a young Cheyenne woman, famous for her porcupine-quill embroidery, explains how the stars were born.
Lee, M.	2006	<i>Landed</i>	374343144	problem solving	The author's father-in-law, Lee Sun Chor, sailed from China to San Francisco with his father, a Chinatown merchant. But like other Chinese immigrants, Sun was detained at Angel Island for weeks, until he could be interrogated by immigration officials.
Cohn, D. & Cordova, A.	2002	<i>Dream Carver</i>	811812448	proportion, patterns	Mateo dreams of carving life-size animals, with surfaces that tingle with vibrant, improbable colors and surreal patterns.
Smith, D.	2011	<i>If the World Were a Village - Second Edition: A Book about the World's People</i>	1554535956	ratios & percentages	To make the idea of a world of 6.2 billion people more understandable, Smith suggests that children imagine the population of the world as a village of just 100 people.
Omololu, C.	2009	<i>When It's Six O'Clock in San Francisco: A Trip Through Time Zones</i>	618768270	time	A lyrical multicultural picture book that introduces the concept of time zones.

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Hopkins, L.	2001	<i>Marvelous Math: A Book of Poems</i>	689844425	various	Marvelous Math is a playful look at the sometimes surprising ways math is part of our daily's life. The poems cover a vast range of topics from multiplication, division, and fractions to time, counting and measurement, but all relate math to our everyday world.