

## Subitizing Activities That Promote Number Sense with Pre-K Students

### **1. How many?**

- Small Group Number Talk
- Flash Card and ask
  - "What number do you see?"
  - "What made you know that was \_\_\_\_ ?"
- Question whole group first, then ask each student individually

### **2. Copy My Card**

- Small group setting
- Prompt students individually to make their card look like yours
- Question individually first, then review in whole group
  - "How many chips do I have?"
  - "Does yours look like mine?"

### **3. Build my Number**

- Small group setting
- Prompt students individually to make their card have the same number of chips as yours (not to look exactly like yours, however)
- Question whole group first, then ask each student individually
  - "How many chips do I have?"
  - "How many chips do you have?"

### **4. Jump Plate**

- Paper plates are dotted with numbers ranging from 3-8 and are arranged at random.
- Plates need to be securely fastened to the floor with tape/Velcro/etc.

- Students are prompted to jump only on plates with the same number until they reach the end. (e.g. "jump only on plates with the number 6")

### **Tips for Implementing Subitizing Activities**

- Use cost efficient manipulatives-paper plates, counter chips, dice, etc.
- Start with smaller numbers when doing the initial activities
- Gauge number range to use by assessing students' number sense prior to implementing activities (Some students may be able to work with larger number quantities while others may not)
- Small groups are preferable
- Ask students how they came up with their answer in a variety of ways. (e.g. "How did you come up with that arrangement?" "I see that you (describe how they arranged the chips). What made you think to use that arrangement?" "How did you know a (the number they recognized) looked like that?")
- Prompt students not to count when arriving at their answer

### **Suggested Websites and Resources**

- Connection to Ten Frames and One More/One Less  
<https://gradeKcommoncoremath.wikispaces.hcps.org/Ten+Frame+s+and+Dot+Cards>
- Variety of Activities including manipulatives, books, etc.  
<http://www.pinterest.com/paelly/subitizing-activities/>
- Video Examples:  
<https://www.teachingchannel.org/videos/visualizing-number-combinations>