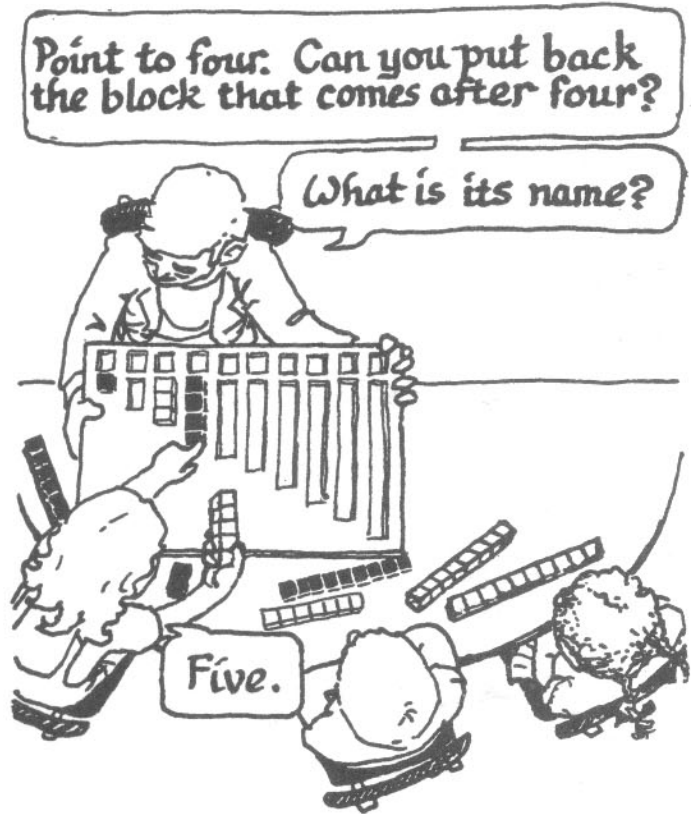


7. Learning about *After*

- Display the counting board.
- Scatter the blocks on the table.
- * Call on a child.
- Say, "Point to 4. Can you put back the block that comes after 4?"
- Ask, "What is its name?"
- A child answers, "5."

Note: When a child is stuck, point to the empty groove to show where the position "after 4" is. Once the children understand the meaning of *after*, play the game without pointing to a groove.



8. Learning about *Before*

Note: For some children the concept of *before* is very difficult. In this experiment the meaning is put into the context of time: "What went before this?"

- Display the filled counting board.
- * Place a 10-box near the beginning (left side) of the board.
- Announce, "The blocks are going into this box. Watch! First the 1-block goes into the box."
- Place the 1-block in the box as the first step of a stair.
- Say, "Now 2 goes into the box."
- Ask, "Which block went before 2?"
- A child answers, "One."
- Ask, "What am I going to do next?"
- A child says, "Take the 3-block" (teacher does so).
- Encourage the children to tell you what to do. You just move the blocks.
- Each time ask, "What went before . . . ?"
- Soon the blocks are in the 10-box in the form of a stair from 1 to 10.



9. Learning about *Between*

Note: Some children have difficulty understanding where the position *between* is. It may be easier for them to understand when you ask them, "What is between your hands?" Try it.

Teaching the Relationship

- * Guide a child by saying, "Put this hand on 4. Put this hand on 6."
- Ask, "What comes between 4 and 6?" (or "What comes between your hands?").
- The child looks at what is between his or her hands, sees the 5-block and names it.

Practicing the Relationship (not illustrated)

- Give both points of reference by saying, "Put back 4. Put back 6."
- Then say, "Put back the block that lives between 4 and 6."
- Ask the child to name it. (Five.)
- Continue with other sets of blocks.



10. Checking Up: The Sticker Game

- Buy small stickers for the children to win.
- Display the filled counting board.
- Say, "Close your eyes."
- Hide a sticker underneath the 4-block.
- Have the children open their eyes.
- * Say, "The sticker is under the block *before* 5."
- Ask, "Which block comes before 5?"
- The child locates 5, finds the 4-block is before 5, looks underneath it, and finds the sticker.

Checking up: You may vary the vocabulary; use *before*, *after*, *one bigger than*, *one smaller than*, and *between*.

