



Making Sets

Stage	Strand	Strand Unit
1	Number	Uses of Number

Learning Outcomes	Maths Concepts
Through appropriately playful and engaging learning experiences, children should be able to develop an awareness that numbers have a variety of uses.	Numbers denote quantity or the amount within a set (cardinality).

Learning Maths

This learning experience will develop the learner's understanding of the cardinal principle. In groups, learners throw a dice and create a set of that number of items. If a three is thrown, everyone in the group makes a group of three items using a variety of materials such as counters, cubes, links etc. Learners discuss their groups, e.g. the group of 3 links looks bigger than the group of 3 counters because links are bigger than counters. Learners consolidate their learning by creating a visual representation, helping to make the connection between the concrete and pictorial representations. The activity is repeated for other numbers on the dice.

Understanding and Connecting	Communicating	Reasoning	Applying and Problem Solving
<i>The learner</i>			
Recognises that groups of objects represent a number and that the last number said includes all objects in the set.	Creates a visual representation of their sets by drawing or taking a photograph.	Tells the teacher and peers about the set made. Recognises the number does not change if the objects are spread out.	Poses problems to their peers, e.g. Make a set which is greater than 5 or less than 4.



Teaching Maths	
Fostering Productive Disposition	Encouraging Playfulness with Mathematics
Provide rich and meaningful contexts for learning by linking the activity to stories and rhymes as they arise, e.g. put 5 frogs on the log or put 3 apples in Red Riding Hood's basket.	Encourage learners to create sets of objects during Aistear, e.g plant a group of 5 plants, put 6 biscuits on the plate. Ask learners to make sets covering more space than their hand/ less space than a post-it.
	Emphasising Mathematical Modeling
	Encourage learners to record their sets in a variety of ways and use a variety of materials e.g. draw a picture of your favourite set
Using Cognitively Challenging Tasks	Promoting Maths Talk
Assist learners to make connections with prior and new learning. Encourage learners to use a variety of materials to create sets in multiple ways.	Provide a safe environment for learners to share and exchange their thinking and ideas. • Tell me about your set. • Which set has more? How can you tell?
Assessing Maths	
• Can learners create sets to match the number on the dice? • Do learners understand that the number denotes the quantity or the amount within a set? • Can learners recognise that the number of objects in the set stays the same if the objects are spread further apart?	
Source	
Pitt, E (2005) <i>Ready Set Go Maths</i> , page 138	