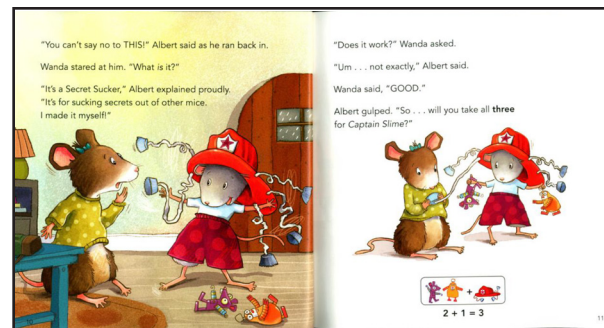


Albert Adds Up! by Eleanor May

age level: 3 - 6

about the story

Albert is so excited about the book his sister Wanda brings from the library that he is willing to trade his favorite toys to read it. First, he offers Wanda one toy and then adds another. Soon he even adds his pet worms. But Wanda does not want to trade the book for any of Albert's things. She makes him take them away. Why? That's a big surprise at the end of the story.



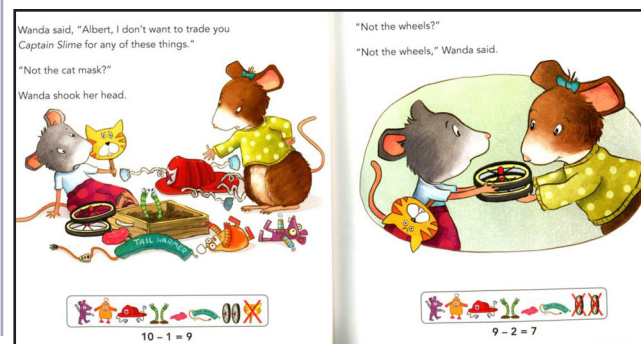
words to learn

plus, scampered, squeaked, gulped, scurried, interrupted, altogether, beamed, trade

about the math

As Albert adds and subtracts different items to trade for the book, your child can learn:

- That adding creates more items and subtracting creates fewer items.
- How to count up the number of items every time Albert adds something else to find out the new total.
- How to count up the number of items every time Albert takes something away to find out how many are left.
- When ready, your child might learn how to read number sentences with the symbols +, -, and =.



tips and questions for reading

Count how many items there are in total: **Albert offered Wanda three toys and two more worms. How many things do you think that is, altogether? Let's count and find out.**

Use your fingers to subtract along with Albert: **Hold up 10 fingers, just like Albert has 10 items. He takes away the cat mask. If we put down 1 finger, how many fingers will we have left?**

Talk about the character's motivation: **Why was Albert trying to trade with Wanda? Why didn't Wanda want any of Albert's things?**

activity after reading

Gather eleven household items. Practice subtraction by taking away some items. Keep going until there are no more left. Ask: **How many did we start with? How many did we take away? How many are left now?**