Count Jack is Highest

**STORY**
Count Jack loves to compare which numbers are higher and which are lower.

But sometimes he loves to just sneak in and win when he can.

You will see how he does this when you play this card game with him.

**GOALS**

**MATH GOAL:** INCREASE UNDERSTANDING OF LARGER AND SMALLER NUMBERS BY PRACTICING COMPARING NUMBERS WITHOUT COUNTING.

**GAME GOAL:** THE PLAYER WITH THE HIGHEST CARD NUMBER WINS EACH HAND, AND THE PLAYER WHO HAS THE MOST CARDS AT THE END, WINS THE GAME.

**SETUP**

- Take out all face cards except the Jacks. Aces count as 1.
- Pass out all the cards in deck so that each player has an equal number.

**HOW TO PLAY**

**HOW A TURN BEGINS.** Players say “1,2,3 Jacks” and then turn over one card from their pile. Each player wants to have the highest numbered card or a Jack.

**HOW A TURN ENDS.** The player with the highest card wins all the cards, and puts the cards in their own saved pile of cards. If a player gets a Jack, that player wins no matter what number the other players have. If two players have the same card, they play another round. The person who wins gets all the cards.

**HOW THE GAME ENDS.** Play until the players have no cards left. The winner is the one with the most cards in their own saved pile.

For video card game instructions, please visit:

http://dreme.stanford.edu/mathfest

**STORY ENDING:** Count Jack thanks you for playing the card game with him.
HINTS FOR HELPING

• Your child may not be sure which number is higher. Then suggest counting from 1 to 10. Point out which number comes later. This shows that the later number when counting from 1 to 10 is also the higher number.

• To figure out which card is higher, you can also suggest looking at which card has more shapes.

VARIATIONS

MAKE IT EASIER

• Remove the Jacks from the deck and just use the number cards.

• Remove some of the higher numbers from the deck. You can play the game using only the numbers 1 through 5 or 1 through 7. When the child knows the lower numbers well you can begin to put one or more of the higher numbers back in the deck for the games.

MIX THINGS UP!

• Make the player with the lowest total on the cards (instead of the higher), the winner.

WHAT GAME TO PLAY NEXT

• When your child can play this game easily, you can go to the chart called Picking a Card Game in the booklet.

• Ask your child the next set of questions on the chart, and it will help you find the next card game to play.