

10 Minutes Till Bedtime by Peggy Rathmann

age level: 2 - 4

about the story

10 Minutes Till Bedtime is a counting book about a boy who has ten minutes to get ready for bed. A team of hamsters arrive to help the boy put away his toys, put on his pajamas, brush his teeth, and read a bedtime story. The story and art are hilarious, so that your child will enjoy counting backwards.



words to learn

Number words and symbols: ten, nine, eight, seven, six, five, four, three, two, one; 10, 9, 8, 7, 6, 5, 4, 3, 2, 1

Other words: minutes, aboard

about the math

The story begins at 10 minutes and counts backwards to bedtime. When reading this counting book, your child can learn:

- We can count both forwards (1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10) and backwards (10, 9, 8, 7, 6, 5, 4, 3, 2, 1).
- How to read the number symbols: 1, 2, 3, etc. Your child can also learn how to connect these symbols to the number words: one, two, three, etc.
- How long a minute lasts and how many minutes it takes to get ready for bed.



tips and questions for reading

Practice counting backwards and guessing what number comes next: **So far, 10, 9, 8, 7 minutes passed. What number do you think we'll see next?**

Talk about time: **What can you get done in one minute? How long is a minute?**

Connect the story to your child's bedtime routines: **How do you get ready for bed? Is that the same or different than the boy?**

After reading the story, practice counting backwards from different numbers: **Let's count backwards, starting from 15... Now starting from 8.**

activity after reading

After reading the story, time how long different activities last: **Let's time how many minutes it takes you to get ready for bed, or how long it takes you to eat breakfast.**