

Fish Eyes

by Lois Ehlert

AGE LEVEL 2–5 years

About the Story

Each page of *Fish Eyes* introduces a different number of bright, colorful fish. Children can describe the different features of the fish and count their eyes to find out how many are on the page. A little brown fish also introduces the idea of simple addition.

Words to Learn

NUMBER WORDS AND SYMBOLS

one, two, three, four, five, six, seven, eight, nine, ten, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10.

DESCRIPTIVE WORDS

green, jumping, striped, spotted, fantailed, flipping, skinny, flashy, darting.

About the Math

Children can practice counting and simple addition in *Fish Eyes*. While reading the story, children can learn:

- Each fish is counted only once and each fish is matched with only one number.
- The last number of fish we count tells us the total number of fish.
- How to read the numerals 1, 2, 3, etc., and how to connect these symbols to the number of fish they represent.
- When we add the little brown fish, we get one more than the total number of colorful fish.

Math Talk During Reading

WHEN YOU COUNT THE NUMBER OF FISH, STRESS THE LAST NUMBER YOU COUNT

One, two, three, **FOUR**. There are **FOUR** striped fish.

POINT TO THE WRITTEN NUMBER WHEN READING THE NUMBER WORD

There are seven flipping fish. This is the number 7.

TALK ABOUT THE SIZE AND SHAPE OF THE FISH

Which fish is the longest? Which fish is the shortest? How do you know?

PRACTICE ADDING ONE MORE

If we add the little brown fish, how many fish will we have altogether?

Try to come up with some of your own questions and comments too!

Activity After Reading

EXPLORE COUNTING EVERYDAY OBJECTS AT HOME AND HAVE CHILDREN SHOW THE NUMBER ON THEIR FINGERS

How many crayons are there? Can you show me the number of crayons using your fingers?

