NUMBERS AND COUNTING

What to look for

Your child...

✔ Can count at least 5 objects

✔ Knows that the written numeral ‘3’ means 3 objects, such as 3 bears

✔ Can add and subtract small numbers of familiar objects, such as, “I have 3 cookies. You have 2. How many do we have all together?”

✔ Can put written numbers in order from 1 to 5

✔ Can count from 1 to 10 in the correct order

✔ Can use the words ‘more’ and ‘less’ correctly

To encourage your child’s skills with counting and numbers:

★ Collect a variety of materials your child can use for counting and learning about numbers. Old keys, plastic bottle caps, thread spools, and pictures from magazines all work well.

★ Use materials from around the house to experiment with addition, subtraction and “more” and “less” activities.

★ Use number words, point out numbers, and involve your child in counting activities as you go through your day.

★ Read, tell stories, sing songs, and say poems about numbers and counting with your child. Try to include books in which characters are added or subtracted as the story progresses. (Good books include: *Five Little Monkeys Jumping on the Bed*, by Eileen Christelow and *Roll Over! A Counting Song* by Merle Peek.)