

# Numbers, Numbers, 1, 2, 3. How Many do you See?



1-20 players

Ages 2+

5-10 minutes

Materials: Fingers and hands

Goal of the game: to immediately recognize different finger combinations and to name how many fingers are being held up.

Setup:

Hold your hands behind your back



Play:

Chant, “Fingers, fingers, 1, 2, 3. How many do you see?” Hold up three fingers with one hand.



Wait for children to say “three” or show three using their own fingers.

Put your hands behind your back. Continue playing using different numbers of fingers. Start with 1-5 fingers. As children progress, move to 5-10 fingers.

Try to vary the ways you hold up your fingers! You can show three fingers:

on one hand in different ways:



or using two hands:



*Variation:* Hold up a number of fingers on your hand(s) and ask children to hold up the same number of fingers in a different way!

What children are learning:

- This is a great game to play when you have just a couple of minutes.
- Numbers can be composed (or made) in different ways! You can make 5 with five fingers on one hand and zero on the other, or with four and one, or with three and two. These different combinations all make 5.
- This game helps children recognize that smaller numbers are part of larger numbers (e.g., 3 and 1 are two parts of 4).