

Explore Number Order

1 Player



Ages 3+



2–5 min

GOAL

Children arrange the Count and See Cards in the correct order, with assistance if needed.

This is the first step of the Count and See games. Watching children play this game can help you figure out the right level of challenge for future Count and See games.

CARDS TO USE

1–6 Count and See Cards



VOCABULARY

Smallest
Highest
Lowest
Greatest
Order

QUESTIONS

What do you notice about the cards?
What do you notice about the number of dots?
What do you notice about the written numerals?

HOW TO PLAY

1. Shuffle the cards and hand them to the child.
2. Ask questions about the cards:
 - “What do you notice?”
 - “Do you see any numbers that you know?”
 - “Can you count the dots? How many dots are there?”

“If there are 3 dots on the card, then what number is on the card?”

3. Ask the child to put the cards in order from 1 to 6 (smallest to biggest). Notice if children are able to put the cards in the correct order. If they aren't sure what the order is, you could help them count the dots to figure out where they go.



TIPS FOR PLAYING

- Talk to children about their strategy: how are they ordering the cards? Some children may order them based on their written numerals; others may order them according to their dots (least to most).
- If a child is not yet ready to put cards 1–6 in order, use cards 1–3. If a child easily orders cards 1–6, use more cards or move on to another game using these cards.
- For children that are ready for a higher challenge, or for any children that like to see the number path that the ordered cards create, use the 1–10 cards or 0–12 cards. Some children might be able to order these cards independently, while others will enjoy watching an adult put them in order. Either way, you can ask questions like, “What do you notice about these cards? Do you recognize any numbers?”
- For an extra challenge, once the cards are in order, ask children to close their eyes while you remove one of the cards. See if they can figure out which card is missing and then ask, “How did you know which card I took out?”

WHAT CHILDREN ARE LEARNING

- As children explore the cards, see if they recognize the numerals. Do they associate the numerals with the numbers of dots? Learning to associate a number word with its written

numeral and matching quantity of dots is an important step in understanding numbers.

MATH TOPICS

Number: Counting and Cardinality

VIDEO



Watch Game Video

View the QR code in your smartphone's camera app or QR code reader to watch a video that shows how to play *Explore Number Order*.