

Digits and words to ten introduction



1 Quantity first — from five to ten

Show five counters in a tens frame. Ask how many. Bring out the digit card 5 and the word card five, and lay them beside the frame.

"Here is five. You know this quantity. This is the digit — 5. This is the word — five. All three mean this many."

Add one more counter to make six — the first new one to write. Name the quantity first, then reveal the digit card 6 and the word card six.

"You know this quantity — six. Here is how to write it. This is the digit 6, this is the word six. Both say the same thing."

Keep going one at a time — seven, eight, nine. Each time name the quantity first, then show its digit card and its word card.

"Seven. Here is the digit 7 and the word seven. Both mean this many."

"What quantity does this digit stand for?"

Reach ten with a full tens frame. Name the quantity, then reveal the digit card 10 and the word card ten. Pause here — this is the first number written with two digits.

"Ten. This one looks different. Every number so far used one character — zero to nine. Ten is the first written with two."

"To write ten, the digits go back to zero and a one goes in front — one, zero."

Name clearly that ten is still one number, not two. Do not explain place value — just notice the two digits and move on.

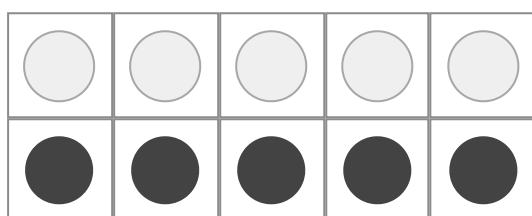
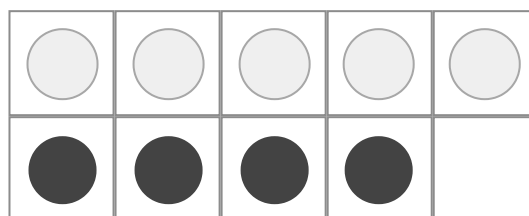
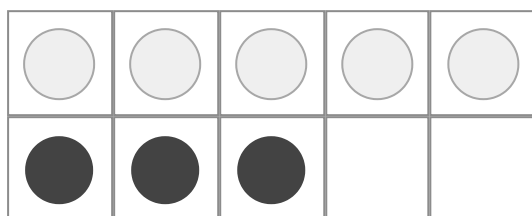
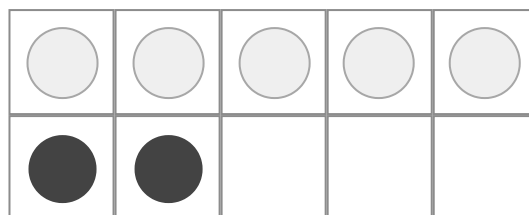
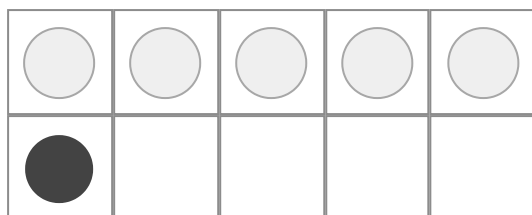
"Two digits, but one number. We do not say 'one zero' — we say ten."

Finish by pointing out that the written names do not look like the amounts — they are simply how we write each quantity.

"The digit 6 does not look like six things, and the word seven does not look like seven things. They are names for how many."

Tens-frame cards — 6 to 10

Print on A4. Laminate and cut along the dashed lines.



Digit cards — 0 to 10

Print on A4. Laminate and cut along the dashed lines.



0

1

2

3

4

5

Digit cards — 0 to 10

Print on A4. Laminate and cut along the dashed lines.



6

7

8

9

10

Word cards — zero to ten

Print on A4. Laminate and cut along the dashed lines.



zero

one

two

three

four

five

Word cards — zero to ten

Print on A4. Laminate and cut along the dashed lines.



six

seven

eight

nine

ten