

# Observing M<sup>5</sup> in Action: Number and Counting

This handout provides questions that help observers notice each of the M<sup>5</sup> teaching practices. It includes questions that apply across ages. Use the questions that work best for the video you have chosen. The video clip may or may not include examples related to each question.

## Mutual Learning

- What did (or might) the educator learn about each child during this experience?
- In what ways was the educator responsive to individual children? Consider the children's interests, languages, cultures and lived experiences, abilities, and emerging skills and knowledge.

## Meaningful Investigations

- In what ways was the experience based on children's questions, interests, or real-world situation?
- In what ways was the experience open-ended? How did this support children to experiment with different approaches to solving a problem or answering a question?
- In what ways did the educator support children's thinking and problem-solving related to number and counting?



## Materials and Learning Environment

- What did you notice about the materials and learning environment?
- In what ways did the materials and learning environment promote understanding of number and developing counting skills?

## Math Vocabulary and Discourse

- What number words or quantity vocabulary (for example, more, less) did the children and educator use?
- In what ways did the educator encourage children to notice and communicate about number and counting (for example, by asking open-ended questions)?
- In what ways did the educator encourage children to participate in math discussions related to number and counting? Some ways children might participate in math discussions include questioning, describing, comparing, or explaining.
- In what ways did the educator encourage multilingual learners to communicate about number and counting in their home language, English, or both?

## Multiple Representations

- What opportunities did the educator offer children to count or represent numbers in different ways?
- What other learning experiences or materials might the educator provide to continue building on children's understanding of number and developing counting skills?

