

MTB4's Focus on Critical Areas in Grade K

In Kindergarten, most learning time is devoted to number. Students focus on the following areas as designated by the Common Core State Standards. Concepts and procedures are regularly revisited throughout the year as students' understanding builds and deepens.

- **Representing and comparing whole numbers, initially with sets of objects.**

Month 1

Students use direct models to compare quantities and apply the counting rules to count sets of objects.

Month 2

In Lesson 1 students practice recognizing quantities in different arrangements (e.g., benchmarked, in a line, or scattered.) In Lesson 2, students identify, describe, and extend repeating patterns. In Lesson 3, students compare quantities using direct modeling and counting strategies. In Lesson 4, students model and solve problems involving growing patterns.

Month 3

In Lessons 1 and 2 students connect quantity to numeral as they continue to compare and order numbers. In Lesson 3 students find ways to partition and represent the partitions of five as they solve part-whole problems. In Lesson 4 they find ways to count on from a given quantity.

Month 4

In Lesson 1 students continue to develop number sense by partitioning ten into two parts. In Lesson 2, they get to know the teen numbers better by improving their forward number sequence and counting strategies.

Month 5

Students focus on the structure of number this month. In Lesson 1 they analyze, extend, and make predictions from a growing pattern. They also use a growing pattern to identify quantities in relation to another quantity. In Lesson 2, students partition numbers 5–9 and learn to write and interpret number sentences. In Lessons 3 through 5 students get acquainted with 100 and explore ways to partition and represent 100.

Month 6

Students solve story problems that involve joining and separating. While they sample a population, students find ways to compare quantities represented as numerals. They also find ways to partition teen numbers into ten ones and some more.

Month 7

Students explore strategies and representations that can be used to solve joining and separating problem situations. Students then explore area, mass, and capacity by solving problems. They end the month by counting feet as they solve join and part-whole problems.

Month 8

Students revisit strategies for partitioning 5s and 10s and fluently adding and subtracting within 5. They continue to explore equivalence by comparing mass and using the two-pan balance to solve compare problems. They solve comparison and equal share problems.

Month 9

Students revisit measurements and comparisons they made earlier in the year. They end the month by analyzing and representing the patterns in the calendar and in the kindergarten year.

- **Describing shapes and space.**

Month 4

Students describe and identify two-dimensional shapes by describing the attributes of shapes and non-shapes.

Month 6

Students sort, describe, and build three-dimensional shapes.

Month 7

Students start this month by solving puzzles with shapes.

Month 9

Students create an obstacle course using position words.