

LETTER HOME

Grouping and Counting

Dear Family Member:

In this unit, students group and count objects. They count by twos, fives, and tens.

Ask your child to tell you about the book *The Doorbell Rang* by Pat Hutchins. The book describes the problem of how to share twelve cookies with unexpected guests. Your child will explore similar problems involving cookies and discuss fair shares and leftovers.

The unit ends with a laboratory investigation. *Colors* is an experiment about sorting and sampling. The lab provides a real-life context for children to use grouping and counting skills.

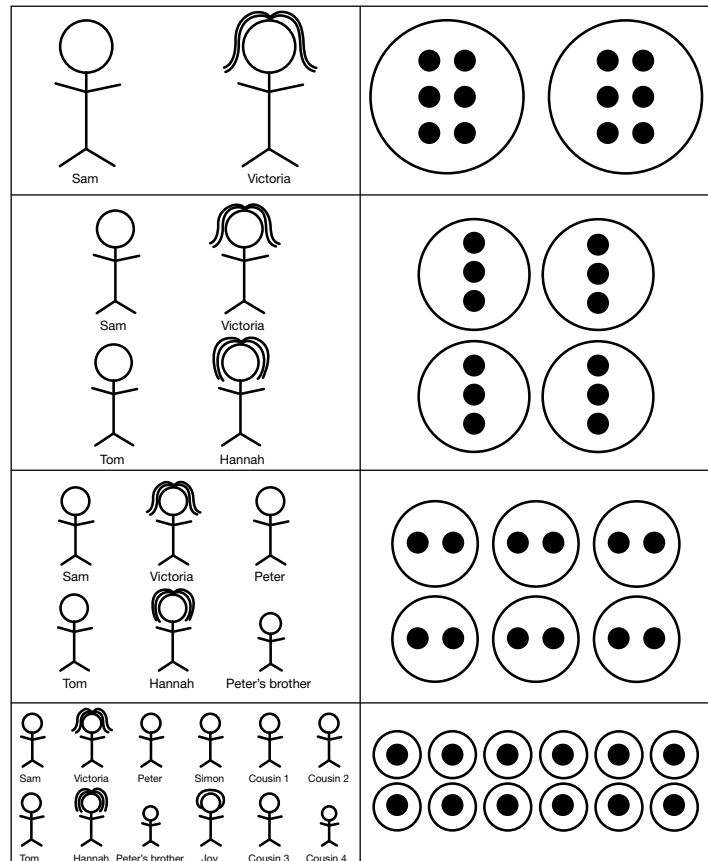
You can extend your child's classroom activities by doing the following at home:

- **Coin Jar.** Stock a small jar with 5–10 nickels and about 20–30 pennies. Ask your child to take some coins from the jar, name the coins, and count the total value. Keep for use throughout the year.

- **Play Care to Share?** Give your child a small container of cereal or other small objects. Ask him or her to make a pile of 17 objects. Tell him or her to share this pile fairly with three people. Allow time for your child to solve the problem. Ask how many objects each person should get and how many objects will be left over. Repeat sharing objects with two, four, or five people.

Thank you.

Sincerely,



Ways to share 12 cookies