

This book tells a tale about a peddler who stacks his caps on top of his head in order of color. The groups of caps provide open-ended opportunities to involve children in practicing addition and subtraction.

CORE SKILL OBJECTIVES

INTENTIONAL TEACHING PRACTICES

THINK-MATH



Children will:

- ◆ Add and subtract small numbers (up to 2+3) using objects or figures to represent objects.

Teachers will:

- ◆ Model addition and subtraction strategies
- ◆ Prompt children to add and subtract using objects

TEACHING TIP

Practicing operations is as simple as separating sets into parts or joining sets together. These skills help set the foundation for more complex arithmetic and word problems later. Children learn these skills more easily when they feel meaningful and concrete. An engaging book can encourage children to think about sets, as can talking about how to share objects or add up the minutes until clean-up. Model these helpful addition and subtraction skills as they come up, and encourage children to try it out using small quantities.

1. INTRODUCE

- ◆ “Addition and subtraction are when we put groups together or take them apart. We’ll try it out together today! We’re going to read *Caps for Sale* and see how we can take apart and put together the different caps in the pictures.”

2. READ THE BOOK

- ◆ Pause occasionally to model adding and subtracting different objects in the illustrations.
- ◆ Ask children to try adding or subtracting quantities under 6, with your support.

Prompt Children to Add and Subtract Using Objects

Read: “and on the very top a bunch of red caps.”

Model: “I wonder how many it will be if I add up his checked cap with the gray caps. (*Count on the page*). Together those are 5 caps.”

Ask: “How many grey caps are there if we take away the checked cap? (*Encourage children to subtract*). Right, 5 caps minus 1 checked cap leaves 4 gray caps!”

Read: “On every monkey was a gray, or a brown, or a blue, or a red cap!”

Model: “I wonder how many I’d get if I added up 2 of the monkeys wearing red and 2 of the monkeys wearing yellow caps. Let’s see! 2 and 2 equals 4.”

Ask: “I see 4 monkeys with blue caps on. What if 2 of them jumped down from the tree? How many would be left? Right, 2 monkeys!”

Read: “So the peddler picked up his caps and put them back on his head”

Model: “I’m going to try adding the trees in the background here. I see 2 fruit trees and 3 skinny trees (*count them*). 3 and 2 together makes 5!”

Ask: “I see his stack of yellow caps is missing one. There are 3 caps in this stack, and 1 nearby. How many yellow caps will there be when he adds the other on top? Yes, there are 4 all together!”

3. REVIEW

- ◆ “Today we added by putting caps together, and we also subtracted when we separated or took away the caps. I bet you could find even more things to add and subtract today.”

4. KEEP IT GOING

- ◆ Extend the use of basic operations skills throughout the day, in different areas of the classroom. As children engage in play, encourage them to add and subtract using concrete objects. As you engage with children, narrate and model your own operations by putting together or separating objects and stating new amounts. You can also extend children’s other favorite read-aloud stories by prompting them to add and subtract items in illustrations.