

Give a Dog a Bone

Here's a game that'll help your child count from 1 to 6 and explore one-to-one correspondence with objects. He'll also improve his number recognition while he's at it. All you need are dog biscuits, dice, and a timer to help your preschooler understand some fundamental math concepts. This game is best played with at least 4 children. The more the merrier!

What You Need:

- Dog biscuits
- Dice

What You Do:

1. Have the children pair off and give each child the same number of dog biscuits (15 is a good amount).
2. Give each pair a die.
3. Set a time limit for the game.
4. Tell the pairs to take turns rolling the die. One child rolls the die and counts the number of dots showing on the top of the die. He then counts out that number of dog biscuits from his pile and hands them to his partner.
5. Then, have the other player to take a turn, repeating what his partner did.
6. When time is up, have the teams count their bones. The team with the most bones wins.
7. If the kids are having fun, have them play again, but with different partners.

Wrap the activity up by testing out their counting skills. Roll a die, and see who can count out the number on the die with biscuits the fastest. Then, set the die aside and say different numbers between one and six aloud. Who can count out the number using biscuits the fastest? Give the kids more chances to practice, and soon you'll be impressed by how doggone quick they can count.

