



## Ten Blue Wrens And What A Lot Of Wattle!

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### Key Message for Parents

#### Children are born ready to use and learn mathematics

- Many early experiences allow children to explore mathematical concepts, such as cooking, jigsaw houses, building with blocks and sand and water play.
- Providing children with age appropriate activities can help them develop mathematical concepts such as counting, sorting, ordering, classifying, measurement, shapes and colours.
- Counting books that illustrate interesting objects matched with a bold number are perfect for toddlers.

### EYLF Learning Outcomes

#### Outcome 5: Children are effective communicators

- Children begin to understand how symbols and pattern symbols work.
- We can promote this by:
  - Sharing with children the number of objects on a page and matching to the numeral.
  - Providing children with a range of everyday materials that they can use to create patterns and to sort, categorise, order and compare.

### Welcome

- Welcome everybody with a song and share guidelines for Story Time

### Book Introduction

- Engage the children by showing them something, related to the book, that they can count, for example,
  - Plastic food in a picnic basket
  - A bunch of flowers
  - A collection of gum leaves
- Have the numbers 1-10 written on individual cards, help the children match the numeral to the number that they have counted.



## During Reading

- This book has lots of lovely interesting words in it. Spend time looking at and discussing the pictures and explaining unfamiliar words to the children. Giving children the opportunity to share their experiences, for example, asking them “Have you ever seen fireworks?” etc will enhance both their comprehension and vocabulary.

## After Reading

- Practice counting to ten together.  
Depending on the age of the children you could teach them how to count to ten in another language. Are their families in your group that speak another language? Invite them to help you.
- Share with families some other number books that you have available to borrow.

For 2 and 3 year olds we recommend:

*Spot Can Count* by Eric Hill

*One Woolly Wombat* by Kerry Argent

*The Very Hungry Caterpillar* by Eric Carle

*Let's Count Goats* by Mem Fox

*An Australian 1 2 3 of Animals* by Bronwyn Bancroft

*The Waterhole* by Graeme Base

*Play School Numbers* by ABC Books

More fantastic number books can be found on our website

## Songs and Rhymes

There is a reason that so many nursery rhymes include numbers. Music appeals to most children so singing is a fun way to help them learn new words and concepts. Many of these songs include actions or children acting out the words which is a very powerful way for young children to learn.

Number rhymes include:

*Baa Baa Black Sheep*

*1 2 Buckle My Shoe*

*1 2 3 4 5 Once I Caught A Fish Alive*

*This Little Piggy*

*Round and Round the Garden*

*Hickory Dickory Dock*

## Activity Time

The illustrations in this book can be the starting point for lots of fun activities with children like:

- Create your own dot paintings using cotton buds instead of paint brushes
- Go on a treasure hunt for gum leaves and other natural objects. Use your treasures to create interesting patterns and pictures.
- Make your own number book

Collate a list with the children and families of their ten favourite picture books. Or ask families to prepare their own lists. Copy and share their lists as a great way of introducing new books to each other.