

# Counting

## What is it?

Learning to count doesn't end when you can count from one to ten or even one to one hundred. There are lots of different counting skills to learn and practise.

**Unbreakable chain** - This is when the children need to start from one when they are counting, the numbers are like a chain that can't be broken.

**Breakable chain** - They are now able to count on from a number, for example starting at 5 and counting on.

**Bi-Directional chain** - Being able to count on or back from a number, for example count back from 26, count on from 37.

## How Can I Help?

Practise all of these counting skills! In the car, walking to school, in the bath ...

Begin with practising these skills with numbers to 10 and move on to numbers to 20 and beyond.

**Count up from 1**

**Count on from any number** (9,10,11)

**Count back from any number**. Bridging the tens is the tricky bit. (71,70,69...)

**Count on in tens** (10,20,30,40...)

**Count back in tens** (80, 70, 60...)

**Count on in 2's** (2,4,6...)

**Count back in 2's** (20, 18, 16...)

**Count on in 5's** (5,10,15...)

**Count back in 5's** (90,85,80...)

**Count on in 10's from any number** (3,13,23...)

**Count back in 10's from any number** (78,68,58...)

**\*\*** Make sure children always pronounce the numbers really clearly especially the 'teen' and 'ty' numbers. 13 and 30, 14 and 40, 15 and 50 etc sound very similar and children will often mumble!