Activity 1: Tell a Number Story

Suggested Pacing
Implement each activity for new numbers introduced to the class.

Group Size
Individual  Teacher-led

What You’ll Need
Tiggly Math
A tablet with Tiggly Cardtoons app

About the Activity

Overview
Play Tiggly Cardtoons app with the Tiggly Math manipulatives to:
- practice counting skills
- listen to number stories that conceptualize abstract numbers in familiar contexts
- come up with your own number stories to share

Learning Journey
Learning: Fine Motor Skills, One-to-one correspondence, Counting, Enumeration, Cardinality
Thinking: Metacognition
Creating: Storytelling and following stories, Visual Creativity
Being Social: Self expression through sharing stories with classmates

Tiggly Lingo
Math Vocabulary: One, Two, Three, Four, Five, & First, Second, Third, Fourth, Fifth
Thinking Vocabulary: Thinkers
Creativity Vocabulary: Scholars, Storytellers
Being Social: Tell your story, Share your thoughts

Skills Needed
None

Getting Ready!
• Please play and preview the app in advance so you are familiar with the stories.

• Each child will need to have a tablet with Tiggly Cardtoons app installed on it and a set of Tiggly Math manipulatives. If you do not have a 1-to-1 program, you can have small groups of children around each tablet, and ask each team member to hold one of the math manipulatives, take turns, and play together.

• Make sure all students can hear the narrator in the app telling stories about numbers.
Let’s Be Stretchy!

• Have children play the Cardtoons app with the Math manipulatives. The app is open for free play: children are encouraged to explore and learn using any counting rod without worrying about right or wrong answers.

• Once children play for about 10 minutes, ask them to all come to the circle for storytime, by calling them “thinkers” and “scholar storytellers”.

• When the class comes together, show them one of the rods and ask “Thinkers” what number the rod represents. You could also ask students to come up and count the rods.

• Next, ask the “storytellers” about the stories they’ve heard in Cardtoons about the specific number you choose. You can mediate the discussion by reminding them the theme in different stories. Please note that the complete list of Cardtoons stories is shown on this left panel of the page.

• If children played in small groups, encourage them to discuss with their group and try to recall the stories together.

• When children retell the stories, encourage them to use the number words in their own language. For example, if they say the dinosaur ate all the leaves, ask them if they remember how many leaves the dinosaur ate? Encourage them to think together!

More Stretchy Ideas!

• You may ask children to create their own stories to share with their classmates. For example, ask: “who likes to tell a story about 5 strawberries?” You can help them to come up with story ideas by asking questions like, “Did the hungry mouse eat all 5 strawberries? Maybe the daddy bear made a soup with the 5 strawberries? Or, maybe someone’s mom bought 5 strawberries from the store?” Make sure to use number words in your language and encourage children to use number words and ordinal numbers in their stories.

• Ask children to show you the rods that make up their story. For example, for the 5 strawberry story they can show you the 5 rod or connect 2 and 3 or 4 and 1.

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**List of Stories**

**Number 1**
- A bear with 1 honey hive
- 1 tiny flower growing up
- A fish playing with 1 egg
- A bulldozer and 1 ball
- A bird singing for 1 worm

**Number 2**
- The dog eating 2 biscuits
- The elephant eating 2 nuts
- The owl juggling 2 balls
- 2 snakes in a truck
- The shark eating 2 apples

**Number 3**
- The cow blowing 3 candles
- Firetruck fighting 3 flames
- Tiger playing with 3 mice
- Crab playing 3 musical notes

**Number 4**
- Horse eating 4 cookies
- Frog chewing 4 gum balls
- Dinosaur eating 4 leaves
- Garbage truck and 4 flies
- Little kitty with 4 boo boos

**Number 5**
- 5 bananas and the camel
- 5 wrenches and the dog
- 5 fish playing hide & seek
- 5 kittens stuck on the roof
- Parakeet singing 5 songs
Add to Your Thinker Journal

- Ask children to draw a story about their favorite number and add that to their Tiggly Thinker Journal.

Engage Parents

- Have a “family time” activity in which the child comes up with a story about numbers with their parents. The child and parent can draw a picture together to depict their story. Parents should feel free to write out the story so the child doesn’t forget. Make sure to have the children return their story to school, so it can be added to their Tiggly Thinker Journal.