

ROSEMARY REUILLE IRONS

number

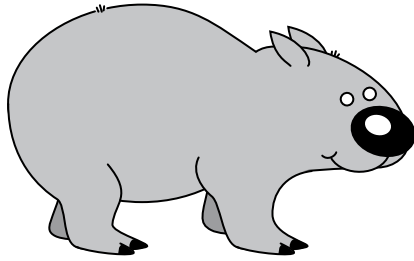
MATHEMATICS FOR YOUNG MINDS

Sample Activities

Warm Wombats

Children identify and name the ordinal positions of first to sixth.

Blackline Masters 18 and 19 (pages 82–83)



Preparation

- Copy Blackline Master 18 and cut out the wombats and rugs. Make enough for six wombats and six rugs for each small group.
- Copy Blackline Master 19, so there is one chart for each pair of children.
- Make more copies of Blackline Master 18 so there are six wombats and six rugs for each pair of children. These will be used in the second half of the activity.

Activity

- Have the children move into small groups and ask them to line up their wombats in the middle. Agree which wombat is “first” in the line, for example, the wombat closest to the board. Say, **We are going to put the correct rug on each wombat. Put a flower rug on the first wombat. Put a star rug on the second wombat.** Continue until all the rugs and ordinal number names are used.

Repeat with different combinations as time allows.

Move the children into pairs and give them a chart. Ask each pair to read their chart and, if necessary, assist the reading of the ordinal number words. Then give each pair a set of six wombats and rugs. Have the children read their chart and follow the directions to place the rugs on the wombats. They then say the ordinal number name and rug pattern for each wombat.

Extension

- Once the children are confident with first to sixth, extend the ordinal number name cards to tenth and repeat the activity.

Missing Numbers

Children determine the number that is missing in the order of numbers from one to ten.

10 sheets of light card

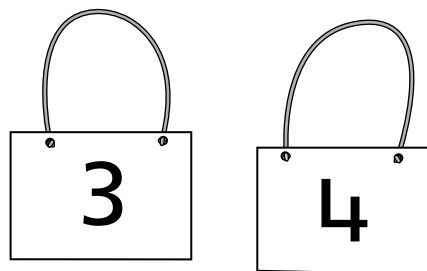
String

Adhesive tape



Preparation

- Draw a large **1** on one piece of card, **2** on another, and so on until there are cards for one to ten. Attach lengths of string to the cards so they can be worn around the children's necks (as shown below).



Activity

Invite five children to the front and have them line up facing the class. Give each child one numeral sign from 1 to 5 in random order. Say, **Wear the signs and put yourselves in number order for all of us to see.** Once the five children have rearranged themselves, read aloud the ordered numerals with the class. Repeat with seven and then ten children.

When ten children are standing in numerical order in front of the class, ask the remaining children to close their eyes. When their eyes are closed, point to one child wearing a numeral sign and ask them to turn around with their back to the class. Then say, **Open your eyes. What number is missing?** Invite several children to say the numeral they think is missing. Repeat as time allows.



Extension

Repeat the second half of the activity, and invite children to write the numeral and number name of the missing number on the board.