STANDARD 3 (K.CC.A.3)

Write numbers from 0 to 20. Represent a number of objects with a written numeral 0–20 (with 0 representing a count of no objects).

Students recognize and write the numerals 0 to 20. Begin with the single-digit numerals and represent the number of items in a set with the appropriate numeral. Additionally, given a numeral, students can represent that number of items in a set.

What the TEACHER does:

• Provide students with a variety of opportunities to recognize written numerals from 0 to 9. This can be accomplished with numeral cards, a deck of cards with both the numeral and a picture of the count of that many objects (Reproducible 6).
• Begin with a small range of numbers (0, 1, 2, 3). As students recognize those numerals with ease, add more cards to the range.
• Show students a collection of items and have them match the appropriate numeral card with the set.
• As students begin to recognize numerals, provide practice writing the numerals, using various modes including writing the numerals in the air as you model, writing numerals on large chart paper with a paint brush, writing in sand or shaving cream, or tracing the numerals on paper. Student readiness will vary with the development of eye-hand coordination and small motor skills.
• Teach this standard together with K.CC.B.2 so that as students count objects, they match the number of objects in a set with the numeral. Focus on activities that connect the concept of a specific quantity of objects and how they are represented by a number. The numeral is the written representation for that number.
• Start with a small range of numbers and continue with counting to 20, using a variety of objects to count including five frames, ten frames, and double ten frames. Include opportunities to count throughout the day such as counting steps, counting the number of students buying lunch, or counting the number of students who walk to school. Ask students to recognize and write numerals for the numbers they use throughout the day.

What the STUDENTS do:

• Recognize numerals from 1 to 20.
• Match a collection of items with the appropriate numeral.
• Over time, write numerals from 1 to 20. Readiness to write the numerals will vary with the development of eye-hand coordination and small motor skills.
• Represent sets of objects with numerals after they have had experience with CC. Cluster B: Count to tell the number of objects.
• Use a variety of modalities to trace numerals in the air, in sand, on paper.

Addressing Student Misconceptions and Common Errors

It is common for kindergarten students to invert or reverse numerals. With additional experience, most children will self-correct. Give children opportunities to have a variety of kinesthetic experiences to form numerals (write numerals in sand, rice, etc.) before they use paper and pencil.