



LOTS AND LOTS OF OCELOTS

Discussion & Activity

DISCUSSION

- When might you use skip counting and why?
- When might you count by 2's? When might you count by 5's? When might you count by 10's? When might you count by 1's? Why?
- Looking at the page with the manatees—try counting by 1's, by 2', by 5's, and by 10's. Which was the easiest? Which was the hardest?
- Did any way NOT work? What does this tell you?

(There are many ways to solve a problem!)

ACTIVITY: HOW MANY WAYS CAN YOU COUNT?

Skip counting is a great tool for encouraging creativity in problem solving. This activity challenges students to explore flexible problem solving through the use and practice of skip counting. Students can work in groups or individually.

You will need:

- Small, countable objects (pennies, pompoms, cubes, etc.)
- Drawing/writing supplies

Instructions:

1. Place a number of items (at least fifteen, can scale up for older kids) on the desk.
2. Ask them how many ways they can count the items on the desk.
3. Have them draw each method of grouping they use—using dots, numbers, hashmarks, etc. Encourage them to be creative! (Maybe they will mix and match skip counting methods, which is great!)
4. Have students share out. Discuss which methods worked best and why.

EXTENSION: IN YOUR WORLD

Looking around you, is there anything you see that you might count using skip counting? How would you count it?