

Melanin Babies "Counting Courage" Reading Comprehension Activity

For Teachers of Children Ages 3-7 (Estimated Video Duration: 2-3 minutes)

1. **Video Viewing (2-3 minutes):**

- Set up a cozy "classroom corner" with a small chalkboard or whiteboard.
- Watch the short video "Counting Courage".
- Encourage children to show a "brave face" when they see someone being courageous in the video.

2. **Count Together (2 minutes):**

- After the video, lead the class in counting from 1 to 10 together.
- Use a fun rhythm or tune to make it engaging.
- Repeat 2-3 times, getting faster or slower each time.

3. **Number Hunt (4 minutes):**

- Hide number cards (1-10) around the classroom before the lesson.
- Children search for numbers and bring them back.
- As each number is found, the class counts up to that number together.

4. **Feelings Face Game (3 minutes):**

- Show different emotional faces (happy, sad, nervous, brave).
- Children mimic the face and guess the emotion.
- Discuss which emotions they saw in the story (e.g., Omari feeling nervous, then brave).

5. **Bounce Back Ball (5 minutes):**

- Use a soft ball to demonstrate "bouncing back."
- Gently bounce the Ball, saying, "When we make a mistake, we can bounce back!"
- Pass the Ball to each child, letting them bounce it and repeat the phrase.

6. **Help-a-Friend Freeze Dance (4 minutes):**

- Play upbeat music and let the children dance.
- When music stops, children find a partner and give them a high-five.
- Say, "Great job helping a friend, just like in the story!"

7. **Story Recap with Puppets (5 minutes):**

- Use simple hand puppets or finger puppets to represent characters.

- Recap key moments from the story, asking children to fill in details:
- a. "What did Omari find difficult?" (Counting to 10)
 - b. "How did the class help Omari?" (They counted together)
 - c. "What did Mrs. T teach about mistakes?" (It's okay to make them, we can learn and try again)

8. Brave Counting Challenge (3 minutes):

- Children take turns counting as high as they can.
- Classmates give encouraging cheers like "You can do it!" or "Great try!"
- Emphasize that it's brave to try, no matter how high they count.

9. Craft Time: My Brave Number (10 minutes):

- Provide paper and crayons/markers.
- Children draw their favorite number and decorate it with "brave" colors or patterns.
- Please encourage them to share why they chose that number and how it makes them feel brave.

10. Closing Circle: Our Courage Count (3 minutes):

- Sit in a circle and count together one last time.
- After reaching 10, cheer: "We did it together! We're all brave counters!"

Remember to adapt activities based on your specific group's age and abilities. Enjoy exploring bravery and counting with your class!