

Maths Game: Counters in a Cup

Materials You Need

- All you need for Counters in a Cup is exactly that--counters and cups!

Any cups that aren't clear or see through will work. I've used Styrofoam and paper cups before and both work great!

Anything small that you can fit 20 or so of them in a cup will work!

e.g.

- beans
- buttons
- legos
- smarties

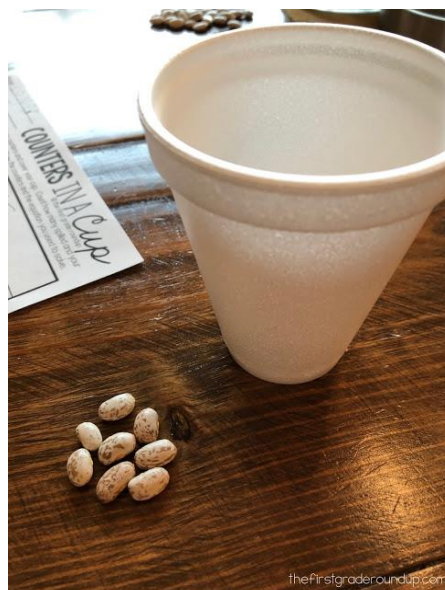
How To Play

To play [Counters in a Cup](#), students need to be in partners (or parent-child, brother-sister if you are at home).

Player 1 puts a set number of counters in the cup. I usually start with less than 5 and work up from there.

Then, player 1 spills out some of the counters.

Player 1 and/or 2 count the counters that spilled. Player 1 says, "___ counters spilled out. How many counters are left in my cup?" and covers up the cup.



Player 2 guesses how many are left in the cup. Then, Player 1 empties the cup for them to check!

Then, both players write the maths sum down.

Example: Player puts 5 counters in the cup and then spills 2 of them out.

Player 1 says: 2 counters spilled out. How many are still in the cup?

Player 2 guesses how many.

Player 1 spills them out to check how many are in there.

Player 1 and 2 count to see if they were right.

They can then write:

$2 + \square = 5$ and put 3 in the box.