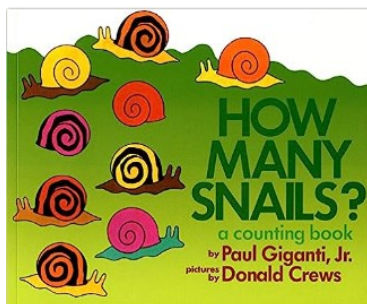# How Many Snails?, by Paul Giganti

Age: Year 1

About the Story

A series of groups of similar objects through the book are to be counted. But what do we need to count? Perhaps the objects are not so similar after all. Look closely: only count the spotty dogs with their tongues out! Only count the big, grey clouds. Don't count the big, white clouds...or the small grey clouds! Develop powers of observation and discrimination, and count increasingly large numbers to answer the questions on each page.

Words to Learn

MATHS WORDS

How many … ? Numbers to 50

OTHER WORDS

The sentence pattern is repeats though the book, 'I went walking … and I wondered', with different settings explored.

Wondered, meadow, various adjectives.

About the Maths

This book develops children's counting to 50, with each page containing more objects, organised in different groupings as you go through. Children need to understand that the last number counted is the total for the set. They also need to think about what needs to be counted; on each page there is a question with one parameter followed by two parameters, what has already been counted and what should not be counted.

Your children can

- Talk about the subtle differences in each picture.

- Match pairs

- Notice what is the same and what is different.

- Count all or count a selection.

- **Practice the counting sequence beyond 20.**

Maths Talk During Reading

COUNTING

Count all on the page, count a group.

Discuss how do we know what to count? Is this in the group? Why? Why not?

Make errors when counting, can the children spot them? Eg read *threety five* for 35 or *19...100*

Count other groups, start the count in different places.

Find pairs which are the same.

NUMBERS

When counting through the teen numbers, dual count… thir*teen*, four*teen*, *fifteen and* ten and three, ten and four, ten and five.

Contrast this with tens numbers thir*ty,* for*ty,* fif*ty*

Activity After Reading

What other questions could you ask? Choose different parameters.

Choose a parameter to count on the way to school, red flowers, white doors, tall trees

Collect 100 objects, make groups of similar things...small and large, patterns, colours, materials