



Polar Bear Polka

Math Story Activity

Standard(s) addressed:

CD-MA2 - The child will manipulate, compare, describe relationships, and solve problems using number and quantity.

- CD-MA2.4b: Counts at least 10 objects using one-to-one correspondence.
- CD-MA-2.4c: Practices combining, separating, and naming quantities.

Materials required:

- Polar Bear Polka Story Book by Cherie B. Stihler
- 10 Counting Bears
- White Printer Paper
- Rekenrek (1 per child and teacher)

Procedure:

Review using a Rekenrek for the activity. Introduce the book by taking a picture walk to identify the various polar animals in the story, and point out the numerals in the story. Discuss that this must be a counting book similar to the Over in the Arctic or other counting books they are familiar with.

Set up 10 counting bears on white paper. Explain that you will count along using counting bears and the Rekenrek to follow along with the Polar Bear Polka Party in the story.

As you read, count the bears with the children on the "iceberg", tearing off a piece of paper each time, stopping to review and count how many have floated away and how many are left.

Variations/ Modifications/Accommodations:

Students can use one Rekenrek line to only add and take away the Polar Bears to practice counting and combining and separating quantities to 10, or for higher level learners, use two lines to add in the other polar animals to combine and separate quantities to 20.