

Ways to Count

Tillie Golsof and G.E. Park





It's almost time for our school's Spring Fair. I love the bouncy castle, dunk tank, popcorn machine, face painting, and games. Every class makes a game.

This year, our class came up with a great game. Families gave us collections of stuff they don't need anymore. We give other people a chance to reuse the collections so they don't get thrown away. It's a great way to help the environment. And as my Nonna says, "My trash is your treasure!"

We've already collected all the stuff—or should I say *treasure*? Now we need to get the game ready.

First, we'll count how many things are in each bag and write the total on a sticker. Next, we'll put the collection in a jar. Then we'll put the sticker on the bottom of the jar. At the fair, people will guess how many things are in each jar. The person with the closest guess wins the treasure in the jar.



I love marbles! When it's my turn to choose a collection to count, the bag of marbles is still there. Looks like there are a lot of marbles, so I choose a jar that's big enough to hold them all. Then I sit on the floor.

Uh-oh, problem! I emptied the bag, and now marbles start rolling everywhere! I'll try to stop them by making a wall with my legs.

That worked! Now, how will I count them?



I love counting by 2s. I've got my jar, and I've got my way to count.

The marbles make this great *ping-ping* sound when I drop them into the jar 2 at a time.

Ping-ping, ping-ping... 6, 8, 10, 12, 14...

I don't want to lose count. I really need to concentrate.

Hmm, I wonder if I will say my favourite number—48. I've always liked that number. I don't know why.



Recycling Fact

Recycling 1 can saves as much energy as using a TV for 3 hours.

...26, 28, 30, 32... Awesome, look at these! The next 2 marbles are amazing! They're big, and I love the colours.

Oh, no! Where was I? I lost count. I really do need to concentrate! Now I'll have to dump these marbles and start counting all over again!



Oh, no! There they go again! Major problem! The marbles are rolling everywhere—across the floor and all over the room.

I run after them, but the marbles keep rolling...

rolling...

rolling...



Recycling Fact

Canadians have recycled enough glass bottles to go around Earth 4 times!



As I chase my marbles, I also look to see what the other kids are counting.

I notice Angus picked the cars to count. He loves cars. I notice that he lined them up in neat, straight rows. That doesn't surprise me. Angus likes things neat.



I stop to hear Angus count. I concentrate and listen for my favourite number. I hear, "...30, 40, 50, 60..."

Hey, he passed right over 48! I wonder if Angus will say 90. He told me once that 90 is his favourite number.





Recycling Fact

Cars have 4 rubber tires. Did you know that tires can be recycled? The rubber can be turned into fuel to make machines run.

There's Anna. She picked the bouncy balls.
Hmm, using bowls to count is a great idea.
There's no way those balls are going to
roll or bounce away from her.

I hear Anna counting, "25, 50..."

It sounds like Anna has put 25 balls in each bowl. Her
counting reminds me of the time I counted my coin
collection. I had so many quarters!

I don't stop to see if she will say my favourite number.
I know she will **not** say 48!



Look at all the buttons Hwan has!
He's made so many groups!
I really think he must have
way more than 100 buttons.
He'll be counting for a while!

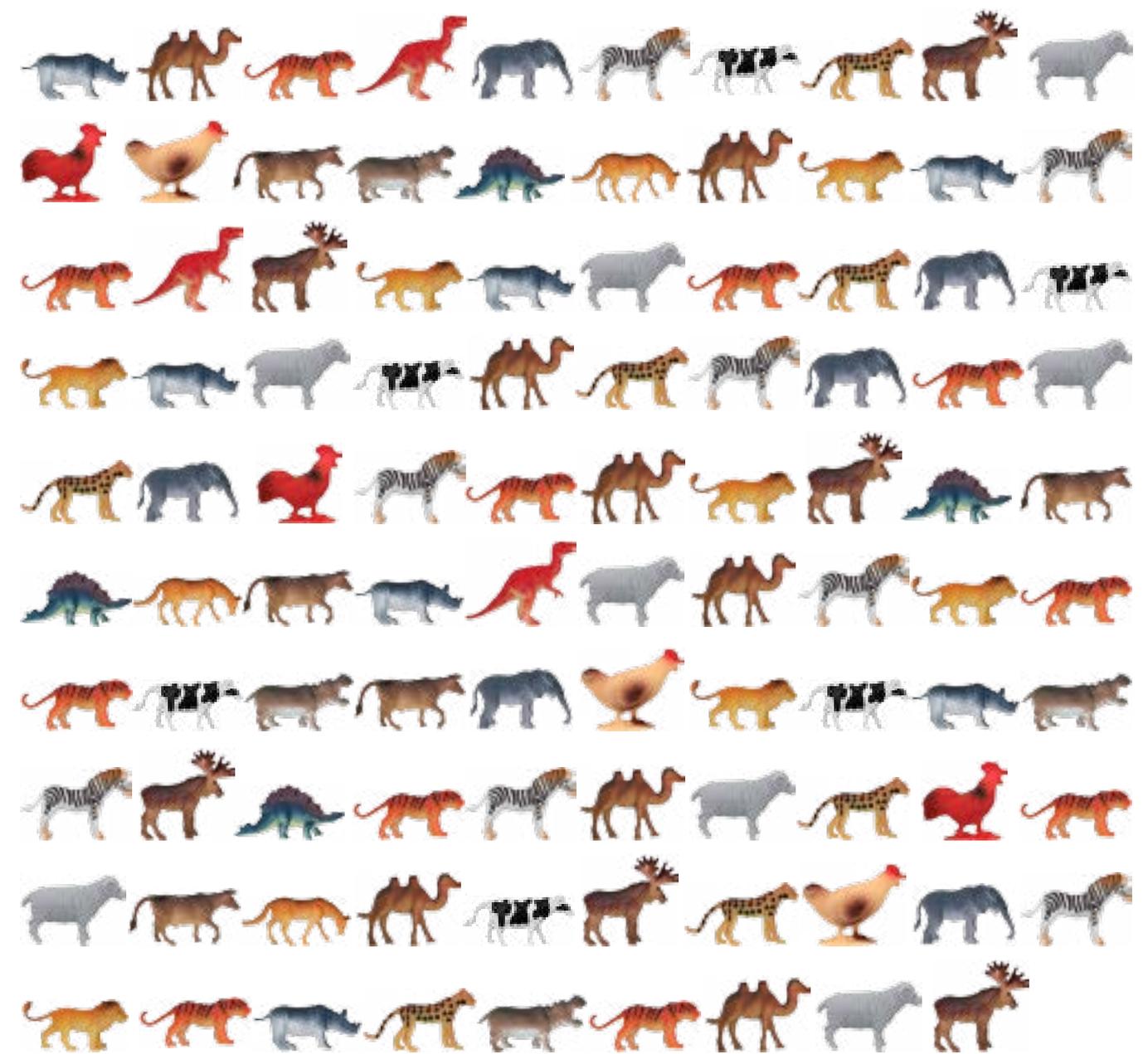
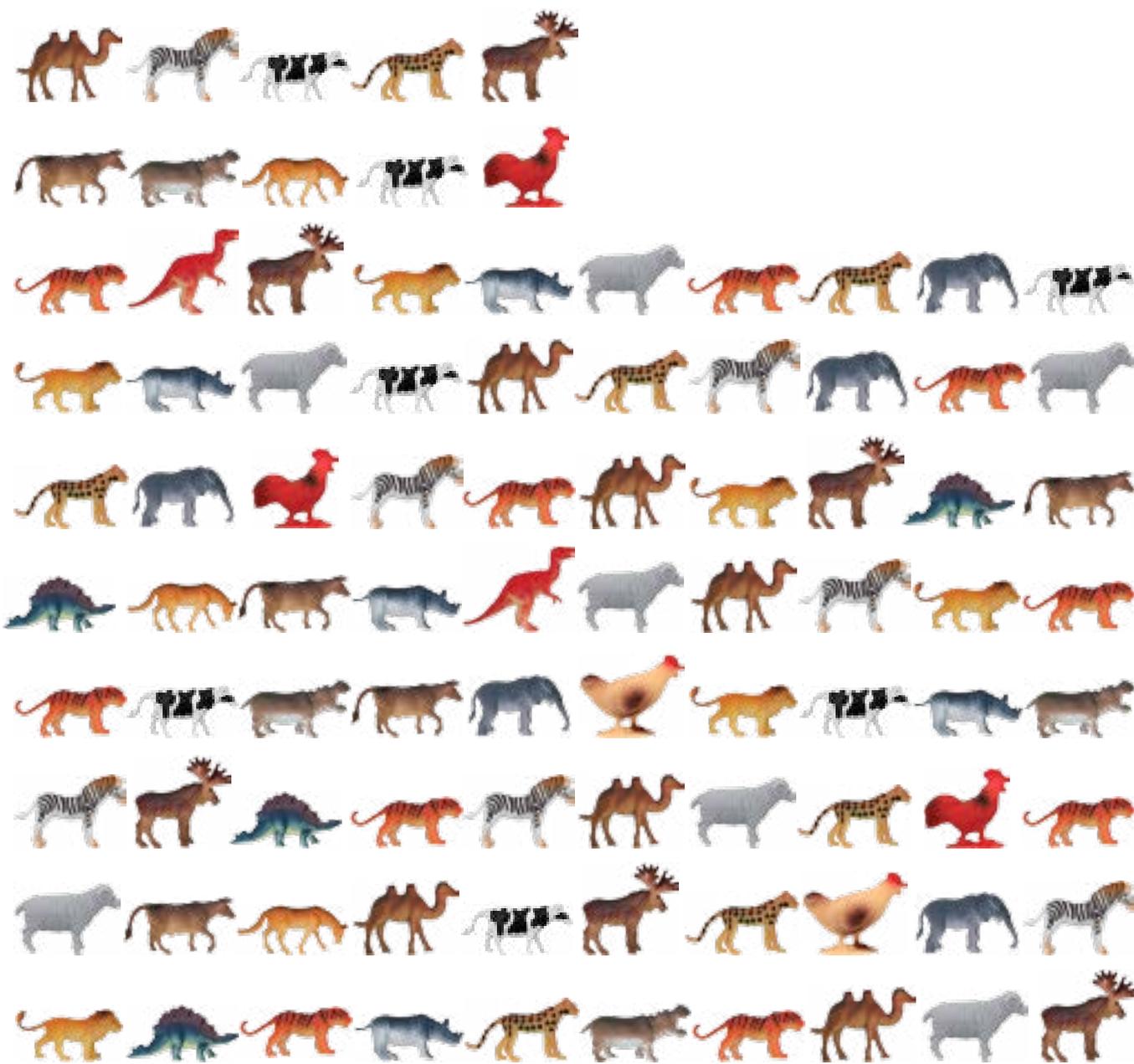
Recycling Fact

Most people recycle
only 1 out of every
50 plastic bags
they use.

Since Hwan has already started to count, I concentrate and
listen. "...15, 20, 25..." he says.

This is interesting. He's saying odd numbers and even
numbers. Will he say 48? He might—48 is an even number.
I can't stay around to find out. I have marbles to catch!





Rae took the animals.
 It looks like he plans to fill 2 jars. Good idea, since there are so many animals.
 I hear him counting,
 "5, 10, 20, 30..."

Recycling Fact
 Recycling 1 glass bottle saves enough energy to light a light bulb for over 4 hours.

If Rae has 2 jars, he'll have 2 chances to say 48.
 Will he?
 I wonder which set he is counting now. I have no time to concentrate and listen for my favourite number. Those marbles keep rolling and rolling!



Finally! Now I have all those round, rolling marbles. I put all the marbles in a basket this time. Those marbles aren't going anywhere.



I have another chance to count and a new plan to make it easy. I grab some of our counting trays. The plan is to put one marble in each section.

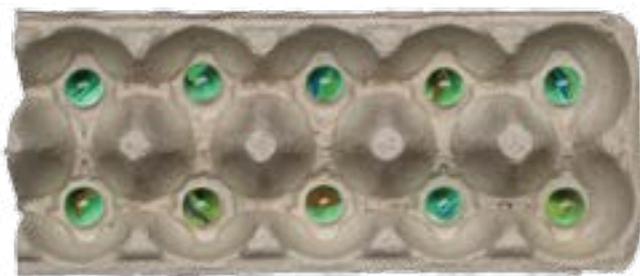
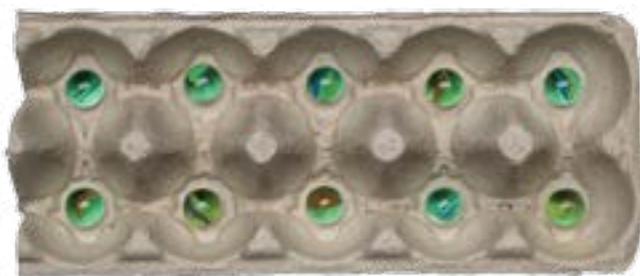
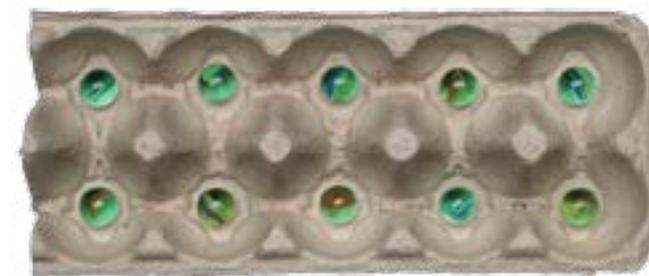
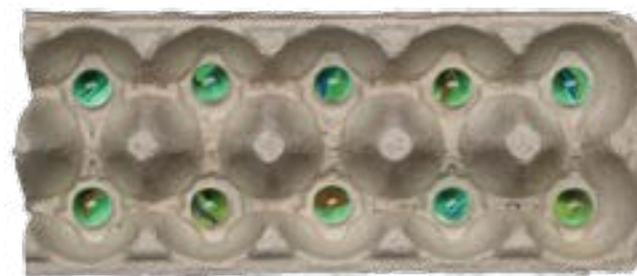
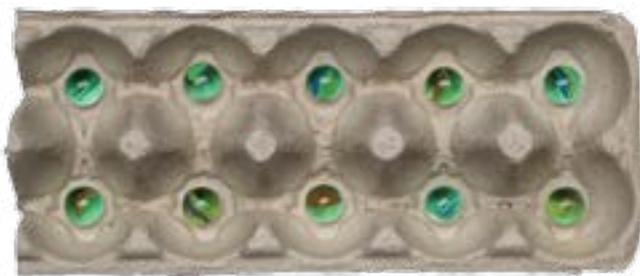
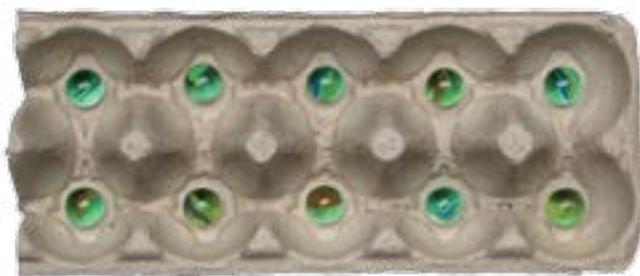
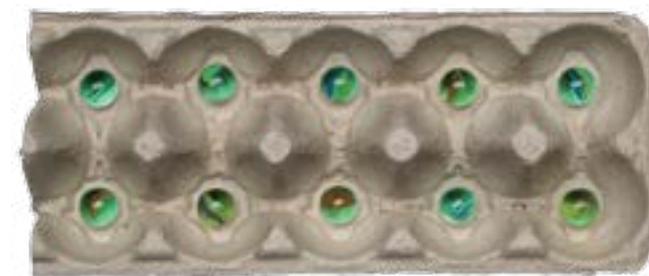
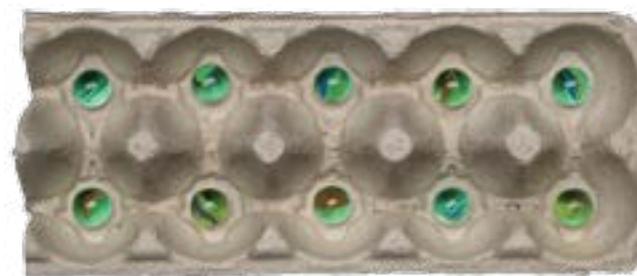
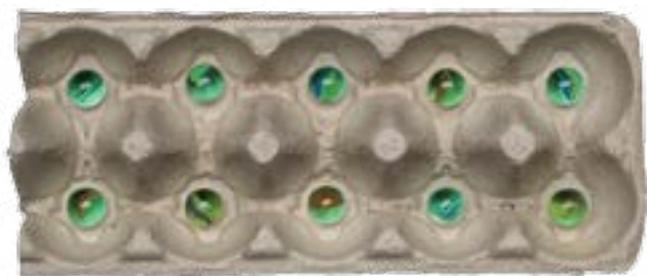
Did I mention that I also love counting by 10s? I have a good feeling that this will work out just fine.



Recycling Fact

Every year, most families throw away about 70 kilograms of paper that could be recycled.





I count by 10s, and guess what I find out? There are exactly 100 marbles! I didn't say my favourite number though, so I decide to count again.

I count by 5s, and then I count by 2s.

I counted a different way each time. And each time, I got the same answer—100 marbles. That is so awesome! And one time, I even said my favourite number!

But what comes next will be even more awesome—the sound of 100 marbles dropping into my jar.

All our jars are ready! Now it's time to estimate. Match the right sticker with each jar.



A



B



E



F

Our numbers on the stickers are clues. How many are in each jar?



C



D



G



H

- 89
- 100
- 73
- 85
- 55
- 100
- 66
- 95



Wow, look, a jar of veggie sticks! Mr. Sharma must have added this as a treat for us. He knows we like guessing and counting—and eating!

For sure, I will guess more than 48!

I wonder if there are more than 100. Or less than 100.

What do you think? Help!

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