Spotlight 3

Counts up unreliably; still counting the smaller number to get one too many in the answer

Opportunity for: reasoning about numbers

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Land on 10   **Time** 10–15 minutes

Resources

● Floor or playground number line
● *Count on cards* (Resource sheet 10)

Key vocabulary

count on   one step forward

count up   same number

count back   one more

count down   how many steps?

next one

Teaching activity

'We are going to play a game called **Land on 10** today. It's about counting on the right number. You are going to get really good at counting on!'

Ask the child to take a face-down Count on card, for example Count on 3. Then tell the child to stand on position 7 (because you want the child to end up on position 10).

? **Which number do you think you will end up on when you work out seven count on three?**

Ask the child to count on three.

> If the child is still counting the position they are on, they will not land on 10 but 9 when they 'count on three'. Repeat the seven count on three, showing them their mistake.
>
> 'Count on three or add three means you must take three steps. Don't count the one you start on!'

Repeat the activity. For example, if the child takes the Count on 1 card, you should ask them to stand on 9. Keep giving rewards for ending up on 10.

? **How do I know which number to tell you to stand on?**

? **If you take the Count on 5 card, where should I tell you to stand?**

? **How do you know that?**

You might want to give the child some experience of using other models for counting on, such as fingers, number lines, or 100-squares.

(*Note:* 100-squares can be unsuitable for counting on because of the difficulties that children find with going from the end of one line to the start of another. 100-squares are ideal for counting on ten, or nine by counting on ten and hopping back one, and so on. But if children are regularly encouraged to do counting on using a 100-square, they tend to make errors. Number lines are much more efficient.)

? **How many steps from six to ten?**

? **What if you count back from ten to six, how many steps?**

? **What is really important to remember for our next session?**