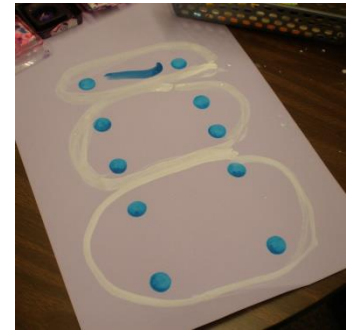


Ten-man



The Ten-man character provides a mental image of the quantity of ten in a fun and engaging way for children. There are four dots on the bottom snowball, four dots on the middle snowball, and two dots for the eyes. Children love to say, "Four, four and two more make ten!"



1. Show the Ten-man card to your child.
 - a. Say, "This is Ten-man. He is a snowman with a special name. His name is Ten-man. Why do you think his name is Ten-man? Because he has 10 dots! Let's count them together."
2. Point to each dot in order as you and your child count 1-10. *(See note below.)
3. Help your child point and touch each dot and count 1-10.
4. Cover all but the bottom snowball. Ask, "How many dots are on Ten-man's bottom snowball?" Your child may count at first but will soon be able to just look and say, "four."
 - a. Cover all but the middle snowball. Ask, "How many dots are on Ten-man's middle snowball?"
 - b. Cover all but the head. Ask, "How many dots are on Ten-man's head?"

The Ten-man method organizes counting. Model and encourage the counting order for your children. It has been our experience that children who "count like Ten-man" make fewer mistakes in their counting. Use the link below to watch our children's video on how Ten-man got his name.

<http://www.kuskemath.com/step-2-meet-ten-man/>

***NOTE:** The 4-group Math *Counting Order* is counter intuitive to adults but easy for children. When building the 4-group Number Patterns; we count right to left instead of left to right, and from the bottom up. The reasons for this are:

1. A child starts with these counters: She wants to know how many. So she can count, then move the counters into a 4-group pattern to see with her "math eyes" how many.

She can see 1. She can see 2. She can see 3. She can see 4. She can see 5. She can see 6.

2. Our counting order helps children understand place-value. We build right to left because numbers get bigger as the digits move to the left. For example, when 9 becomes 10, the ones move to the left into the tens place to become one ten.

<p>3. When we add, we regroup to the left.</p> $\begin{array}{r} 1 \leftarrow \\ 28 \\ +34 \\ \hline 2 \end{array}$	<p>4. With reading, this number is <u>read</u> left to right – <i>fourteen</i>.</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-size: 2em;">14</p>	<p>This 4-group Number Pattern is <u>read</u> left to right, one group of ten and four ones, or <i>fourteen</i>:</p>
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