

# 10 Minutes Till Bedtime by Peggy Rathmann

AGE LEVEL 2–4 years

## About the Story

*10 Minutes Till Bedtime* is a counting book about a boy who has 10 minutes to get ready for bed. A team of hamsters arrives to help the boy put away his toys, put on his pajamas, brush his teeth, and read a bedtime story. The story and art are hilarious, so your child will enjoy learning to count backward.



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## Words to Learn

### NUMBER WORDS AND SYMBOLS

ten, nine, eight, seven, six, five, four, three, two, one; 10, 9, 8, 7, 6, 5, 4, 3, 2, 1

### OTHER WORDS

minutes, aboard

## About the Math

The story begins at 10 minutes and counts backward to bedtime. When reading this counting book, your child can learn:

- How to count both forward (1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10) and backward (10, 9, 8, 7, 6, 5, 4, 3, 2, 1).
- How to read the numerals: We read 1 as “one,” 2 as “two,” 3 as “three,” etc.
- How long a minute lasts and how many minutes it takes to get ready for bed.



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## Math Talk During Reading

### PRACTICE COUNTING BACKWARD AND GUESSING WHAT NUMBER COMES NEXT

So far, 10, 9, 8, 7 minutes have passed. What number do you think we will see next?

### TALK ABOUT TIME

What can you do in one minute?

### CONNECT THE STORY TO YOUR CHILD’S BEDTIME ROUTINES

How do you get ready for bed? Is that the same or different than the boy?

### AFTER READING THE STORY, PRACTICE COUNTING BACKWARD FROM DIFFERENT NUMBERS

Let’s count backward starting from 8...  
Now try to count backward from 13...

*Try to come up with some of your own questions and comments, too!*

## Activity After Reading

### AFTER READING THE STORY, TIME HOW LONG DIFFERENT ACTIVITIES LAST

Let’s time how many minutes it takes you to get ready for bed, or how long it takes you to eat breakfast.