

Quack and Count

by Keith Baker

AGE LEVEL 3–6 years

About the Story

Quack and Count is about seven ducklings quacking, sliding, and flying in marshland. Throughout this beautifully illustrated story, the seven ducklings form different groups that can be added and always make seven.



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Words to Learn

MATH WORDS

seven, plus

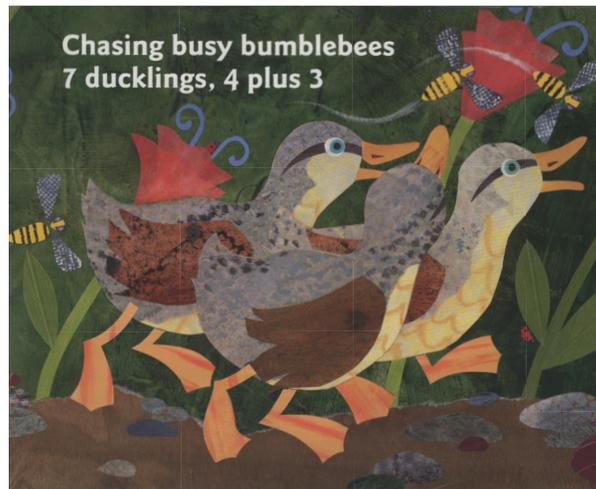
OTHER WORDS

slipping, leap, shore, peek-a-boo, paddling, flapping

About the Math

Children can practice counting and addition in the story. While reading, children can learn:

- To practice counting a group of ducks that are not always neatly in a row and in fact may be hard to see—a challenging but enjoyable task.
- That a group of objects can be broken into two groups that add up to the number of the original combined group.
- To explore the different ways two groups of ducklings can add up to seven ducklings.



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Math Talk During Reading

PRACTICE CAREFUL COUNTING

Be careful when you count the hidden ducks in the water. Point to each duck as you go along.

PRACTICE SIMPLE ADDITION

How many ducks do you see on the first page? How many ducks are there altogether? How do you know?

EXPLORE THE STRATEGY OF COUNTING-ON

There are three ducks on the first page. Next we can count four, five, six, seven ducks altogether.

EXPLORE DIVIDING A NUMBER INTO SMALLER GROUPS

How else can we separate a group of seven ducklings?

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

Activity After Reading

PRACTICE BREAKING UP A GROUP OF OBJECTS INTO SMALLER GROUPS

Here are eight crayons. Can we divide them into two groups? How many crayons would go in each group? Is there another way to separate them into two groups?