



### **Some other “Counting To 100” ideas that I do:**

- I have a 100-Pocket chart. The number squares are flipped over so they do not show. The mathematician helper of the day flips the number over.
- Since I start out with *The Little Engine That Could* and we are all “Can Do!” positive thinking kids! I have a little paper conductor in the pocket next to the turned over number. The children ask “Train Man” what the next number is.
- I have a plastic link chain hanging down from a tack. It’s located next to the Pocket Chart. There are 101 links on the chain. They are in rainbow-color order so that I can teach a color pattern as well. Why stop at counting up to 100 when we can stay with 3-digit numbers and celebrate the number 101 with a Dalmatian Theme Day! As we take a link away each day, the children say: minus, take away, subtract. We put our link on Cruella’s chain and say: plus, add. Is our chain longer or shorter than Cruella’s? Say greater than or less than or equal to. When it gets to 101 Day, I dress up as Cruella DeVil. ☺
- I bought a spiral index card book and we flip a number up and over each day so that my students can see that we are counting UP! This book sits on my chalk sill.
- I also have a Hugs & Kisses with X’s and O’s Gumball machine poster. We make a CIRCLE with our Yipee Skippee and trace the gumball, then we zap-it with an X. (Start at the TOP go down the slide Whee. Start at the TOP go down the other slide; Whee!) When the gumball poster is filled we all get a gumball. (Color gumballs so that you can easily see groups of 5 and 10 so you can count that way later. i.e., gumballs 1-4 are traced with a blue dry erase marker. Gumballs 5, 15, 20 etc. are red, gumballs 10-20-30 etc. are green.)
- Going along with my *Little Engine That Could* theme I tell my students that “We are all aboard for a great year!” So we count up to 101 via a shape train that starts in our room with numbers 0-10 then chugs out in the hallway up to 101. Each day we choose the correct color shape to add to our Shape Train. This is a great opportunity to review colors and shapes (English, Spanish & Sign Language) and to be able to identify patterns. Reviewing the train’s various aspects fills up “down time” while we wait in the hallway for children to use the restroom, get ready for lunch, transition to somewhere else etc. Since we study the rainbow in March and study 6 shapes all year, I have the shapes be those 6 colors and we put them in rainbow color order. To make a train laminate 10 sheets of each color of the rainbow construction paper. Trace my templates and cut out the shapes. Rubber band each color and keep them in a basket with a black marker and your poster putty. WRITE the number on as the day rolls around. You can use your shape train each year. Put it up high or it will get played with and dog-eared and you will lose pieces. So that the caboose doesn’t interfere with the color pattern, make sure that its normal red color is a brownish red or just brown. ☺ Enjoy.