Helping Your Students at Home

Materials:

Buttons, coins, matchbox cars, silverware, socks, marbles, animal crackers (gold fish, teddy grahams, pretzel sticks, raisins), cereal, keys, bottle caps, crayons, cut out a variety of pictures from a magazine or any other group of items that are around the home, etc.

Paper, crayons/pencil for students to record their totals or make a picture graph, die/dice

Activities:

Sorting/Matching:

- Students can sort by size, color, shape any of the above mention items

Counting:

- Students can count the buttons in each pile
- Students can count the number of coins in each pile
- Which group has more – which group has less—how do you know?
- Students can count by 1’s, 2’s, 5’s, 10’s — kids can clap, jump, snap while counting
- Students can count how many steps it takes to walk from the kitchen to the bedroom, etc. or how many steps to go upstairs or downstairs, how many items there are in a room, i.e. number of windows in the house or apartment
- Count the days in the month on the calendar, forward and backwards (can use actual calendar or calendar on cell phone or computer)
- Students can roll a die and count out number of objects from a group

Patterning:

- Students can use different items to create patterns
  - Examples:
    - Pretzel, goldfish, pretzel, goldfish, pretzel ...... etc.
    - Quarter, quarter, penny, penny, Quarter ...... etc.
    - Fork, spoon, fork, spoon, fork ...... etc.