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Science with a Magnifying Glass
Information Sheet

There are 2 types of lenses: Concave: The lens “caves in” and Convex: The lens rounds out. The magnifying glasses we sell use a convex lens.

To help children learn how to use a magnifying glass the right way tell them to hold it at arms length and look at Mom, Dad, or caregiver. The person should look like they are sitting on the ceiling. If you over correct them on usage, they will stop using it for fear of always being wrong. There is a delicate balance between letting them use it their way and the right way. At first, let them use it any way they want and as they use it more often, then start helping them use it the right way. You might want to ask them to look through your magnifying glass so they can see what it looks like when used the right way.

Counting: There are 2 types of counting: Rote and One-to-One Correspondence.

Rote counting is the easiest as children just count by memory and can count up to 100 or greater.

One-to-One Counting is the most important kind of counting because children have to match a number with the object. When children first start learning to count, they will count and touch at first and then start “flying over” the objects they are counting and end up with a number greater or less than the actual number of objects.

To help children learn One-to-One counting, take their finger and help them touch each object as they count. If you’re touching the object with your finger, their brain isn’t getting the information it needs to learn this skill.

For the early learner, there are 3 types of rocks: Sedimentary, Metamorphic, and Igneous.

Sedimentary Rocks are those that are formed by many years of sand, silt, and soil settling on top of each other. When you look at one of these rocks, you can actually see the layers in the rock.

Metamorphic Rocks are those that are formed through a physical or chemical change caused by heat and pressure. It is really difficult to tell the difference between a sedimentary and metamorphic rock; just make your best guess and stick with it.

Igneous Rocks are those that are formed by heating and cooling of molten earth material. The most famous of these rocks is a volcanic rock; a.k.a. obsidian, pumice, andesite, basalt, etc. Just for fun, put a pumice rock in water and watch what happens. Leave it there overnight; now what happens.