



Pasta count down

This activity will involve children in some surprisingly hard maths! They will need to think how they can work out how many pieces of pasta they had to start with. They can count in threes using the tally marks. Then they add the one or two they had left at the end. Help them to do this and write the numbers.

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What to do...

You will need some dried pasta pieces.

1. Do this activity with a partner.
2. Pick up a handful of dried pasta.
3. Ask your partner to guess how many times you can drop three pieces and still have some left!
4. Drop three pieces. Your partner makes a tally mark.
5. Drop three more pieces. Your partner makes a second tally mark.
6. Continue like this. How many sets of three can you drop?
7. Was your partner's guess close?
8. Write the number of pieces of pasta you had, and the number of drops you made.
9. Play again but this time letting your partner pick up the handful, whilst you guess the number of drops!

I still have two pieces.



I reckon that means you had 20 pieces to start with!

