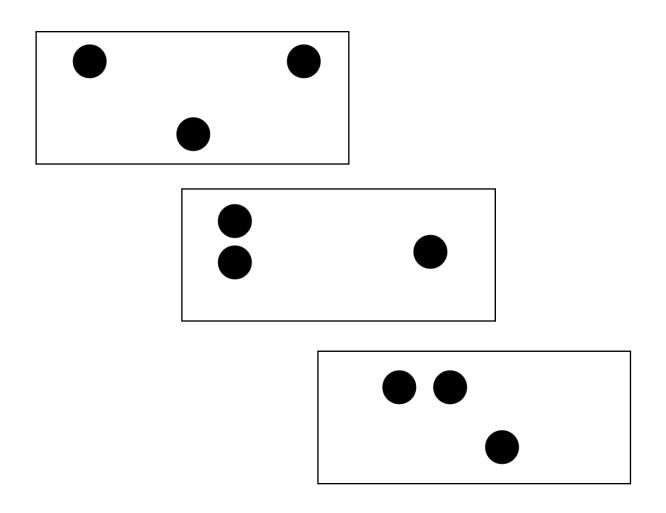
Subitizing Dot Capas



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Subitizing is the ability to know the number of objects in a small collection without counting.

GOAL: We want students to form mental images of number patterns

Use dot cards (or objects) like these. Do not use manipulatives because students are more likely to count manipulatives than dot cards or objects.

Visuals/dot cards should:

Dots/shapes should stand alone and not be embedded in pictures.

Use simple forms like circles or squares.

Use regular arrangements that have symmetry.

Cards should have a strong contrast with background.

Ways to use the cards:

Show cards and have students say the number without counting.

Play a matching game.

Display several cards one of which is a different number than the rest and have players identify which doesn't fit.

Use two decks of cards. Give each student one and have them select a card and ask their partner to find a matching card.

Display a card and have students say the number that is one more.

Display many dot patterns on a large board. Point to each arrangement and have students say them as fast as they can.

Flash a card for 3 seconds then hide it and have students say what number it was.

