


CALENDAR COMPONENT

The Calendar Grid, Session 2 Making the November Calendar Markers

Overview

Children make 10 of each kind of marker they voted on yesterday.

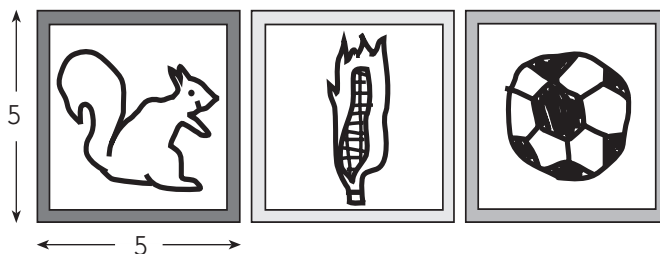
Skills

- ★ exploring the operation of division
- ★ estimating size

You'll need

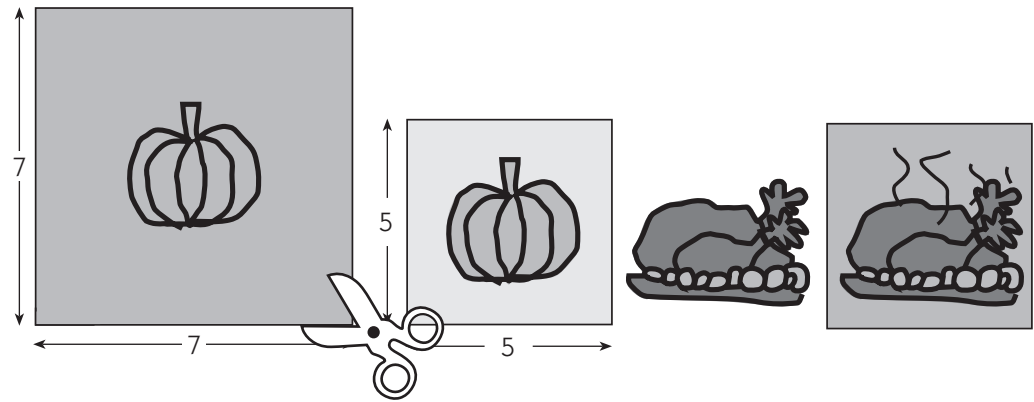
- ★ $4\frac{1}{2}$ " squares of white construction paper
- ★ 5" and 7" construction paper squares in several different colors
- ★ scissors, glue, crayons, colored pencils
- ★ construction paper scraps in various colors

***Note** The colors of construction paper squares you choose to cut depend on the markers your children vote to make. You'll want to end up with thirty 5" square markers; 10 each of 3 different types. Each type of marker should stand out and be easily distinguished from the other 2 types. The easiest way to handle the task is just to hand out $4\frac{1}{2}$ " squares of white paper and have children draw the items. Then back each type of marker on a different color paper—all the squirrels on 5" squares of orange, all the ears of corn on 5" squares of yellow, and all the soccer balls on 5" squares of brown, for instance.*



Sometimes however, the markers look more attractive if they've been cut freehand and left as is or mounted on a different color paper. If you decide to have children cut out shapes for your markers be sure to give them 7" square paper to start with so you don't wind up with really miniscule markers. Ultimately, your choice of paper colors and sizes will depend on the markers your class has decided to make.

Making the November Calendar Markers (cont.)



Start by reviewing the three marker choices from yesterday. Show children the paper squares you've cut for each type of marker and make sure they understand that the markers have to look reasonably standard to be distinguished from one another on the calendar grid. For instance, all the turkeys have to be cut out of brown paper and backed on tan, all the pumpkins must be made of orange and backed on yellow, or all the squirrels must be drawn on white and backed on orange.

Then either tell them that you need 10 of each type of marker or challenge them to figure it out.

Teacher *There are 30 days in November and we've voted to make 3 different kinds of markers. How many of each will we need to make?*

David *We could just start making markers and quit when we have enough.*

Teacher *That would be one way to handle it. But what if we wanted to make exactly the same number of squirrels, ears of corn, and soccer balls?*

Sarah *I'm pretty sure it would be 10.*

Eloise *It would have to be because 10 plus 10 plus 10 is 30.*

Jake *10, 20, 30!*

Teacher *So if we made 10 of each marker type, we'd have enough?*

Children *Yes!*

Making the November Calendar Markers (cont.)

Next, figure out who will make which markers, and decide who will make more than one, if necessary. Be sure children understand that they're not to put the numbers on their markers yet. (The number on any particular marker will be determined by its place in the pattern, which has yet to be determined.) Finally, send them out with the paper squares they'll need and any other supplies. Be sure they put their names on the backs of any markers they make, so that the artist of the day can be identified and so you can return them at the end of the month.