

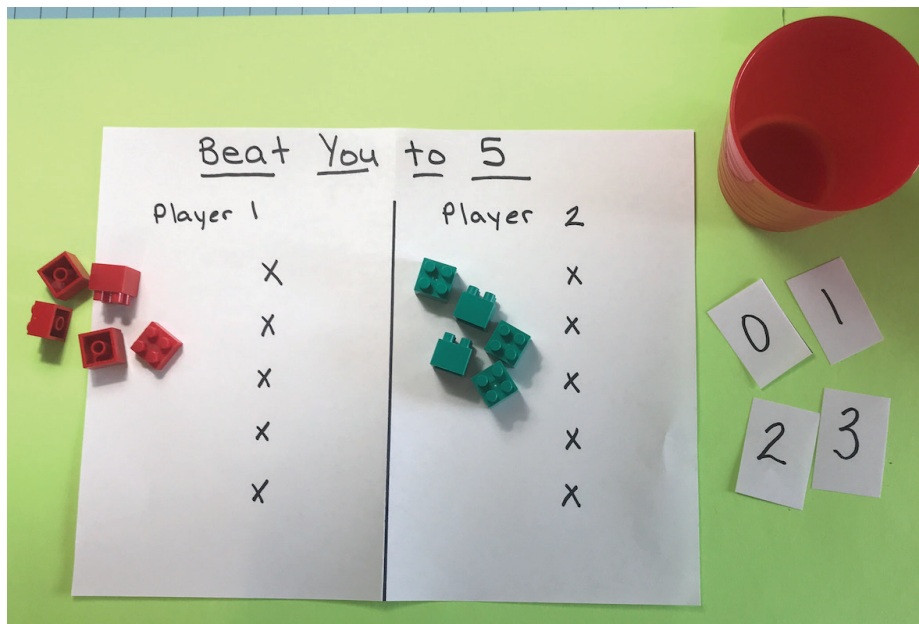
Beat You to Five

Object of the Game

Be the first player to cover all of the squares or Xs on your side of the game board exactly.

Materials

- Beat You to Five Game Board
 - » If you don't have a copy of the Beat You to Five game board or can't print a copy right now, use paper and pencil to make your own.
 - » To use the spinner on the game board, lay a paper clip (or safety pin) so that one end is in the center of the spinner. Then, set a pencil straight up in the center-end of the paper clip. The pencil gives the paper clip a fixed point around which to spin. Give the paper clip a spin to be sure it moves freely.
 - » If you're using a homemade game board, make your own spinner (instructions at www.mathlearningcenter.org/sites/default/files/pdfs/home-learning/family-games/MakeYourOwnSpinner.pdf) or use a digital version. Or write the numbers 0, 1, 2, and 3 on small pieces of paper and place them in a cup. For each turn, pull a slip of paper out of the cup.
- 10 objects for counting (5 for each player). You can use dried beans, buttons, coins, paper scraps, small toys such as building blocks, etc.



Skills

This game helps us practice:

- Saying the verbal counting sequence
- Counting objects
- Reading numerals

How to Play

1. Get ready to play:
 - » Players share a game board.
 - » Each player needs 5 objects for counting.
 - » Decide who goes first.
2. Take turns spinning the spinner or pulling numbers from a cup.
3. Count that number of objects. Cover up 1 square or X with 1 object.
4. The winner is the first player to cover all of the squares or Xs on their side of the game board exactly.
 - » If a player spins too many on a turn and goes over the target number, that player has to wait to try again.
5. Have fun!

Tips for Families

As you play, ask your child some of these questions:

- *How many cubes do you have so far?*
- *You already have 3. When you cover 2 more, how many will you have?*
- *How many more would I need to catch up with you?*
- *If playing to 10, ask: Now, you have 7! How many more do you need to get to 10?*

At the end of the game:

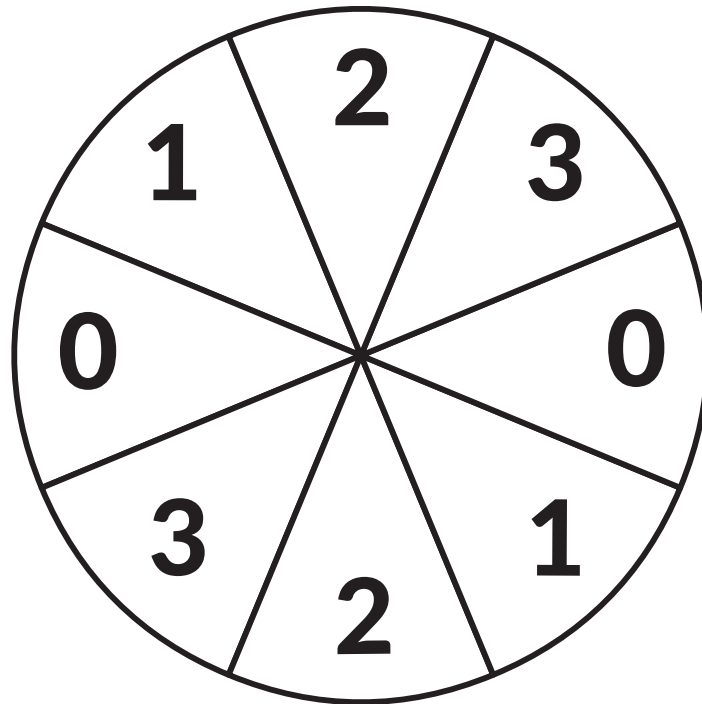
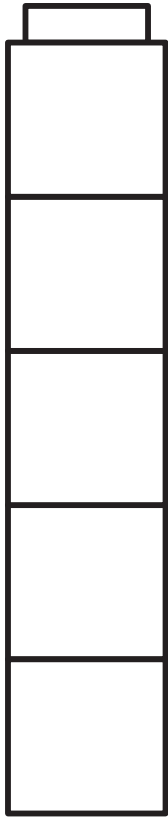
- Try lining up the two groups of objects next to each other to visually compare the groups.
Ask: *Who won? By how much? How do you know?*

Change It Up

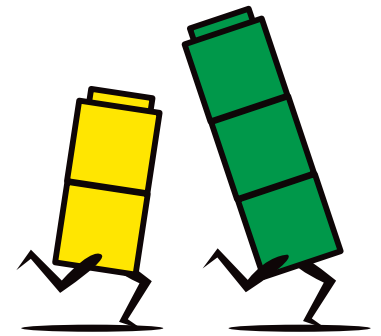
Making even small changes to a game can invite new ways of thinking about the math. Try making one of the changes below.

- Try playing up to 5 and back to 0, subtracting the number spun or pulled from the cup. The first to reach 0 exactly wins.
- Play up to 10 by drawing a second column of squares or Xs next to the first on your game board. Each player will need 10 objects.
- Choose a different target number such as 6 or 7. Draw squares or X's on each side of the game board so that the total number equals the target number. More objects are needed if you are playing for a higher target number.
- Try playing with 3 or 4 players. You will need to print or draw additional game boards.

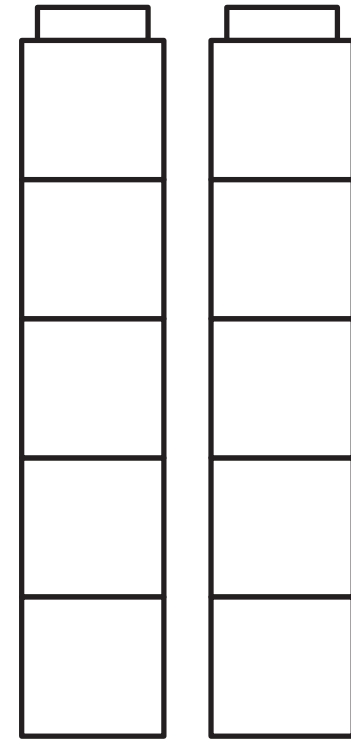
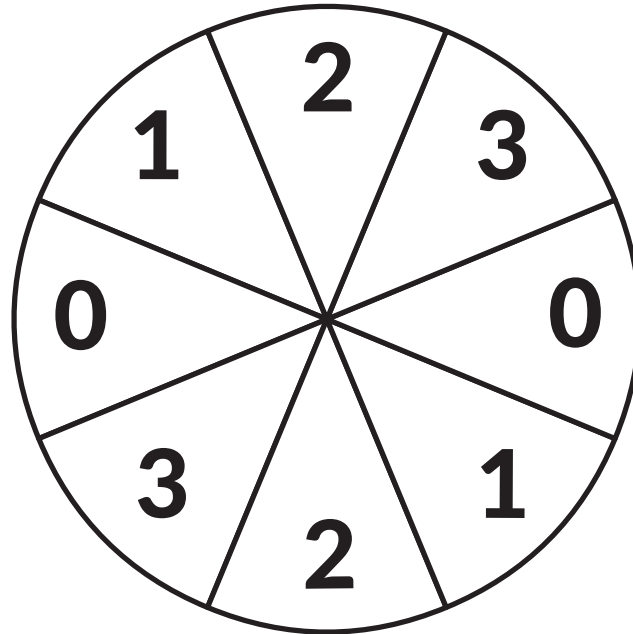
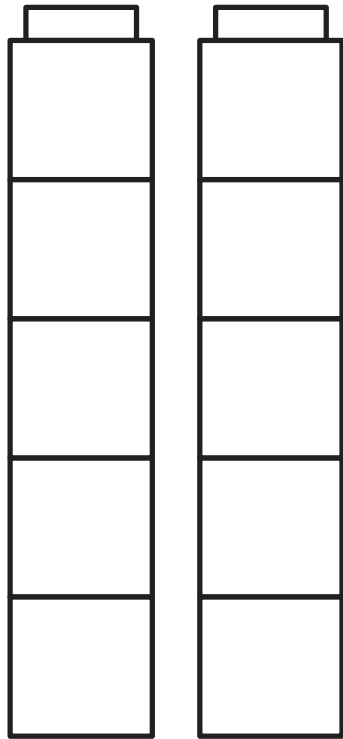
Beat You to 5 Gameboard



1 2 3 4 5



Beat You to 10 Gameboard



1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

