How Many Toys in the Tub?

Story by Allyn Fisher
Art by Amber Cooper
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This story is excerpted from the read-aloud books included in the Bridges in Mathematics Pre-K curriculum. This math-rich collection features theme-based counting and numeral recognition, sequencing, shapes and locations, and very early addition and subtraction. For more information about these books, including how to order the full printed collection of nine titles, visit store.mathlearningcenter.org bridges-2nd-edition/2bpkread.asp.

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Makayla likes to take all of her bath toys into the tub. Her little brother, Jayden, likes to play at bath time too.
Makayla! It's bath time!

OK, Mom! I'll get my bath toys ready!

Don't take too long. Your little brother still needs his bath.

I won't!
Let's see... first, the rubber duckies!
Mom! Jayden threw his ball at my ducks! He's wrecking everything!

Oh, Jayden! Don't do that!
OK, first the rubber duckies, and then the boats.
MOM! He did it again! He’s making a big mess!

Jayden! Stop now! I mean it!
OK, first the rubber duckies. Then the boats, and then the little paddle toys.

Makayla, are you in the tub yet?

Just about, Mom! I have to get everything ready.

Well, hurry up! It’s getting late!
MOM!!!

Now what?
Makayla, I’ve had it! Just get in the tub, NOW!

But, Mom!

Makayla, 1... 2... 3...!

OKAY!