

# Birthday Wish



**Activity:** Children use felt birthday cakes with candles to count using one-to-one correspondence then identify and match numerals and sets.

## Objective

The children will practice counting using one-to-one correspondence and identifying and matching numeral and sets.

## V. Mathematical Thinking Number Sense

V.A.3. Demonstrates one-to-one correspondence when counting objects placed in a row (one to 15 and beyond).

[http://www.floel.org/standardsresource/standards.html#d=V&a=four\\_year\\_olds](http://www.floel.org/standardsresource/standards.html#d=V&a=four_year_olds)

## Lesson

1. Cut out felt birthday cake shapes with various sets (1-10) of candles for use on the flannel board.
2. Prepare numeral cards from one to ten that can be placed on the flannel board.
3. Set up the flannel board prior to the children gathering for circle time. Have the cakes with candles easily accessible and display the numeral cards from one to ten on the bottom of the board.
4. As the children are gathering for circle time, have a CD with the *Happy Birthday* song playing. As the children join the circle, sing "Happy Birthday". If possible, provide birthday hats for each child to set the tone.
5. Place a cake on the flannel board.
6. Ask the children how many candles are on the cake. Count the number of candles with the children.
7. Ask the children to identify the numeral that matches with that set of candles.
8. When the correct numeral is identified, place it on the cake.
9. Repeat steps 5-8 above until all of the numerals and sets have been identified and matched.

## Materials Needed

Flannel Board  
Felt shapes: cut outs of birthday cakes with various sets of candles (1-10)  
Numeral cards from 1 through 10  
CD with Happy Birthday song

## Checking for Understanding

Children will demonstrate their understanding of the lesson by:

correctly counting each candle as it is touched (e.g.,

## Scaffolding

-Begin with numbers 1-5 for students who may need additional support.  
- Work in smaller groups of one-on-one.

## Extensions

**-Dramatic Play:** Add birthday related items for the children to use (e.g., cake, candles, birthday hats, napkins, plates, gift wrapped boxes).  
**-Music:** Provide musical instruments and scarves for the children to use while singing the *Happy Birthday* song.  
**-Art:** Provide materials for wrapping presents (e.g., boxes, ribbons, tape).  
**-Science:** Wrap boxes of different weights. Have the children arrange them in order of lightest to heaviest.