



PRE-K MATH: HOW MANY LITTLE SEEDS?
SUPPORTS FOR ENGLISH
LANGUAGE LEARNERS

GRADE PRE-K MATH: HOW MANY LITTLE SEEDS?

Supports for ELLs

Title: Performance-Based Assessment 1: Planting Operations and Algebraic Thinking—Addition/Subtraction

Grade: Pre-K

Linguistic Access:

In this performance-based assessment, a distinction between the vocabulary and the language functions is needed to provide entry points to the math content. Both need to be clarified to ensure comprehension and to avoid misunderstanding. This can be done by introducing the most essential vocabulary/language functions with the concrete models in order for English Language Learners to grasp the meaning of the terms. The following vocabulary/language functions are suggested:

Vocabulary Words:

Tier I (Non academic language): line, more, less, enough, fewer

Tier II (General academic language): all together, number

Tier III (Math technical language/concepts that must be carefully developed): addition, subtraction, total, add, sum

Language Functions: combine, take away, explain

Content Access:

For this performance assessment, a clear understanding of addition and subtraction is required. Many opportunities need to be provided whereby students physically bring sets together and/or combine them into one new set.

Students need to physically experience the separation of one set into parts to find out what is left (the remainder set). Students need to know that this is only one model for subtraction, at an early age.

Scaffolds:

- Students need to have previous experiences with number lines and picture graphs. For example, students can build their own number line with the teacher's assistance.
- Additionally, 6 matching cards can be made (each one showing one of the faces on a die) for students to use with the pictures of objects (1 to 6), the numerals (1 to 6), and the words (for 1 to 6) to help develop the concept and vocabulary. Furthermore, this will provide necessary preparation for the math game.