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**THE SNAKE GAME**

Description of Materials

* A box containing one Black and White Short Bead Stair
* A box containing 2 or more Coloured Short Bead Stairs
* A box containing at least 9 Ten Bead Bars
* A Marker
* A small felt cloth

 Picture from To The Lesson Blog

Objectives:

* To prepare the child for addition
* Indirect preparation for Number Bonds

Presentation:

* Show the child where the materials are kept on the shelf, name them and carry to the work station
* Show the child how to make a triangle with the Black and White Bead Stair, and say, “This is how we make the triangle”.
* Invite the child to build the 2 sets of Coloured Beads into triangles
* Then say, “We are going to make a snake with the coloured beads”.
* Take the coloured beads at random and start laying out a snake.
* Explain to the child that “ we are now going to change the coloured Snake to a Golden Snake, Using the Golden Ten Bead Bars”
* Begin to count to 10. (If the coloured Bead bars are 4, 2, 8… beads, the Tenth Bead will be reached on the fourth bead of the Eight Bead Bar leaving 4 over.)
* Put a marker in place at the end of the tenth bead, count how many beads are left on the rest of the bar (in this case the Eight Bar) remove the 4, 2, and 8 bar.
* Place these on the lid of one of the boxes and replace them with one Golden Ten Bead Bar and a 4 Bead Bar from the Black and White Bead Bars.
* Count the next 10, start from the Black and White Beads. The idea is to replace every ten beads with a Golden Ten Bead Bar and the remainder units with the Black and White Bead Bars.
* Continue to replace the coloured beads with the Golden and Black and White Bead Bars till all is done. The exercise would have been carried out correctly if the whole snake has turned golden, using up all the 9 Golden Ten Bead Bars for the 2 sets of Short Bead Stairs. If not that means there was an error in the process of carrying out the exercise.
* Return the materials to the proper place on the shelf and remind the child that he can work with the material whenever he wishes.

Control of Error:

The Black and White Bead Stair provides a Control of Error when the child changes Coloured Beads for Golden Beads. One of the lids is used to hold and later check the beads removed from the sake.

This work will progress into the child being given lots of addition work, and increasing in length, (2+5+4+3+8+9+1+2+8+5+1+7 = )

This aids concentration an eye for detail and you will find that instead of boredom the child would be engrossed and happy in the end, proud of his/her ability to accomplish the task.

Age: 4 years

Note:  
  
Please follow the directions in the presentation and allow the child to understand and get used to playing this without any written work.   
  
When the child does start working with written out, start with a few then increase as you see their interest in this work grow.   
  
Have Fun.  
  
Pictures show you what the black and white beads look like  
All black Beads 1 to 5  
Bead 6 is five black and one white  
Bead 7 is five black and two white  
Bead 8 is five black and three white  
Bead 9 is five black and four white