

Birds! Birds! Everywhere!

Counting Birds in Nature

Beginner: Count each bird you see. If you can, count in another language.

[Tip]: Count birds in Cree.

- 1 - peyak (pay-UCK)
- 2 - niso (nee-SOH)
- 3 - nisto (niss-TOH)
- 4 - newo (nay-WOH)
- 5 - niyanan (NEE-yah-nun)
- 6 - nikotwasik (nih-KOTE-wah-sick)
- 7 - tepakohp (TAY-puh-kohp)
- 8 - ayinanew (EYE-nah-nayo)
- 9 - kikamitataht (kay-kah-MI-tah-tut)
- 10 - mitataht (MI-tah-tut)



Intermediate: Count birds of different sizes. If you can, count in another language.

[Tip]: How many big birds do you see? How many small birds do you see?

Experienced: Count 3 different sizes of birds, then add them together. If you can, count in another language.

[Tip]: Count big birds (geese), medium birds (crows), and small birds (robins). If I see “4 geese, plus 2 crows, plus 5 robins, then I saw 11 birds total.”

[Brief] Why? Counting in different languages helps improve focus and can be done in everyday life.

[Detailed] Why? Counting in another language helps children improve concentration, memory, and multitasking ability, skills helpful for success in mathematics.

References: Marian, V., & Shook, A. (2012). The cognitive benefits of being bilingual. Cerebrum: the Dana forum on brain science, 2012, 13.

Caregiver Handbook: 100 Chart, Cree Numbers