

Example of number talks in practice 3: Peas for snack with 3-year-olds



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In Andrea's day nursery, she decided to put peas on the snack table and included a photograph on the table to help the children know how to get the peas out of the pods. Chanelle, Olivia and Casey went to get a snack.

Chanelle snapped open a pea pod, "Wow, I got 1, 2, 3, 4!" (touching and counting the peas).

Olivia: "I got 1, 2, 5, 7".

Andrea: "Ooooh let's check, count them with me, 1, 2,3,4. 4 peas, same as Chanelle".

Casey excitedly snapped open her pea pod "Oh, I've only got three" (showing three fingers when she said three), subitising the peas without needing to count them one-at-a-time. Then she paused and looked at the other side of the pea pod, "Oh, Oh, there's two more on nuther bit". She help the pea pod up to show everyone her extra two peas that she had just discovered.

Andrea: "Let's look at this picture. How many are on here?"

Chanelle: "2 and 4, look!" (subitising the group of 2 peas and group of 4 peas).

Casey counted: "1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6. 6 peas!"