Maya's Baking Championship: Count to Win!

Grade 1 | math | baking-champions

Students will count forward and backward within 20, using baking-championship story scenes to build counting fluency.

Name: _____ Date: _____

1. Maya steps into the Baking Championship kitchen. She spots a row of special golden spoons on the shelf. Count the spoons: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5. How many special golden spoons does Maya see?

2. Maya opens her baking kit. Inside she finds unique star-shaped cutters. Fill in the blank: Maya counts 1, 2, 3, ___, 5, 6. What number is missing?

3. Maya finds a box of rare find sugar pearls. There are 8 pearls in one row and 4 more beside it. How many rare find sugar pearls does Maya count in all? Show your work.

4. Maya loads her tray with hidden treasure chocolate gems. She puts 9 gems on the tray. Then 3 gems roll off. How many hidden treasure gems are left? Show your work.

5. True or False: Maya lines up her unique iced cakes. She counts 6, 8, 10, 12. Maya is skip-counting by 2s. Is this true or false? Write TRUE or FALSE and explain in one sentence.

6. Maya finds rare find silver stars in two jars. The first jar has 7 stars. The second jar has 8 stars. How many rare find stars does Maya count in all? Show every step.

7. Maya must count all her special object ribbon rolls to win. She has 20 ribbons. She gives 6 ribbons to her helper. Then she gives 4 more away. How many special ribbons does Maya have left? Show both steps.

8. Maya wins the Baking Championship! The judge places hidden treasure trophy tokens on the winner's table. The tokens are in this pattern: 2, 4, 6, ___, ___, 12. Fill in the two missing numbers. Then write how many tokens Maya has in all. Show your counting.

Answer Key: Maya's Baking Championship: Count to Win!

GRADE 1 | TEACHER & PARENT USE ONLY

After Q6, pause and ask students: 'Maya counted 7 rare finds and then 8 more — can anyone count on from 7 using their fingers?' This mirrors the exact two-part counting in Q6 and makes the skip visible before students tackle Q7.

1. Maya steps into the Baking Championship kitchen. She spots a row of special golden spoons on the shelf. Count the spoons: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5. How many special golden spoons does Maya see?

Answer: Count each spoon one by one: 1 → 2 → 3 → 4 → 5. Maya counts 5 special golden spoons. Answer: 5 special golden spoons.

2. Maya opens her baking kit. Inside she finds unique star-shaped cutters. Fill in the blank: Maya counts 1, 2, 3, ___, 5, 6. What number is missing?

Answer: Count the sequence: 1, 2, 3, then the next number is 4, then 5, 6. The missing number is 4. Answer: 4.

3. Maya finds a box of rare find sugar pearls. There are 8 pearls in one row and 4 more beside it. How many rare find sugar pearls does Maya count in all? Show your work.

Answer: Start at 8. Count on 4 more: 9, 10, 11, 12. 8 + 4 = 12. Answer: Maya counts 12 rare find sugar pearls.

4. Maya loads her tray with hidden treasure chocolate gems. She puts 9 gems on the tray. Then 3 gems roll off. How many hidden treasure gems are left? Show your work.

Answer: Start at 9. Count back 3: 8, 7, 6. 9 − 3 = 6. Answer: Maya has 6 hidden treasure chocolate gems left.

5. True or False: Maya lines up her unique iced cakes. She counts 6, 8, 10, 12. Maya is skip-counting by 2s. Is this true or false? Write TRUE or FALSE and explain in one sentence.

Answer: Check each step: 6 + 2 = 8 ✓, 8 + 2 = 10 ✓, 10 + 2 = 12 ✓. Every jump is +2. Answer: TRUE — Maya is skip-counting by 2s.

6. Maya finds rare find silver stars in two jars. The first jar has 7 stars. The second jar has 8 stars. How many rare find stars does Maya count in all? Show every step.

Answer: Start at 7 (bigger number). Count on 8 more: 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15. 7 + 8 = 15. Answer: Maya counts 15 rare find silver stars in all.

7. Maya must count all her special object ribbon rolls to win. She has 20 ribbons. She gives 6 ribbons to her helper. Then she gives 4 more away. How many special ribbons does Maya have left? Show both steps.

Answer: Step 1: 20 − 6 = 14 ribbons left. Count back from 20: 19, 18, 17, 16, 15, 14. Step 2: 14 − 4 = 10 ribbons left. Count back from 14: 13, 12, 11, 10. Answer: Maya has 10 special ribbons left.

8. Maya wins the Baking Championship! The judge places hidden treasure trophy tokens on the winner's table. The tokens are in this pattern: 2, 4, 6, ___, ___, 12. Fill in the two missing numbers. Then write how many tokens Maya has in all. Show your counting.

Answer: The pattern skips by 2 each time: 2 + 2 = 4, 4 + 2 = 6, 6 + 2 = 8, 8 + 2 = 10, 10 + 2 = 12. Missing numbers: 8 and 10. To find the total, count all tokens: 2 + 4 + 6 + 8 + 10 + 12. Add in steps:

2 + 4 = 6, 6 + 6 = 12, 12 + 8 = 20, 20 + 10 = 30, 30 + 12 = 42. Answer: The missing numbers are 8 and 10. Maya collects 42 hidden treasure trophy tokens — she is the Baking Champion!