

# Maya and the Dragon's Hidden Treasure

Grade 1

math

dragons

Students will count forward and backward within 20, count on from a given number, and use counting to find totals in a dragon adventure story.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

1. Maya enters the dragon cave. She spots 3 glowing dragon eggs on a rock ledge. Then she spots 2 more eggs below. How many dragon eggs does Maya count in all? Show your counting.

2. Maya finds a rare find — a shiny dragon scale on the cave floor. She already has 4 dragon scales in her bag. Now she has 1 more. How many dragon scales does Maya have? Show your counting.

3. Maya sees two ledges. The first ledge has 6 dragon eggs. The second ledge has 5 dragon eggs. How many dragon eggs does Maya count on both ledges? Show your counting.

4. Deep in the cave, Maya discovers a unique item — a dragon tooth necklace with 8 teeth on it. She finds 4 more loose teeth nearby. How many dragon teeth does Maya count in all? Show your counting.

5. True or False: Maya counts 7 dragon eggs in one nest and 6 dragon eggs in another nest. Maya says she has 14 dragon eggs in all. Is Maya right? Show your counting to prove it.

6. Maya reaches a hidden treasure chest. Inside she finds 9 special objects — glowing dragon gems. Outside the chest sit 8 more gems. How many dragon gems does Maya count in all? Show every count.

7. Fill in the blank: Maya counts dragon footprints on three tunnel paths. Path 1 has 5 prints. Path 2 has 6 prints. Path 3 has 4 prints. Maya counts  $5 + 6 + 4 = \underline{\quad}$  dragon prints in all. Show every count.

8. Maya reaches the dragon's hidden treasure room! She sees 10 dragon gems in one pile. She counts 7 more in a second pile. Then the dragon gives Maya 3 rare finds — ancient dragon coins — to keep. How many treasure pieces does Maya count in all? Show every count. What is Maya's grand total as she walks out of the dragon cave?

## Answer Key: Maya and the Dragon's Hidden Treasure

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Before Q3, ask students to act out Maya counting dragon eggs by tapping their desks — this physical count helps bridge Q2 to the two-group counting in Q3 and anchors the escalating totals through Q7.

1. Maya enters the dragon cave. She spots 3 glowing dragon eggs on a rock ledge. Then she spots 2 more eggs below. How many dragon eggs does Maya count in all? Show your counting.

**Answer: Count on from 3: 3 ... 4, 5. Maya counts 3 dragon eggs + 2 dragon eggs = 5 dragon eggs in all.**

2. Maya finds a rare find — a shiny dragon scale on the cave floor. She already has 4 dragon scales in her bag. Now she has 1 more. How many dragon scales does Maya have? Show your counting.

**Answer: Count on from 4: 4 ... 5. Maya counts 4 dragon scales + 1 rare find scale = 5 dragon scales in all.**

3. Maya sees two ledges. The first ledge has 6 dragon eggs. The second ledge has 5 dragon eggs. How many dragon eggs does Maya count on both ledges? Show your counting.

**Answer: Count on from 6: 6 ... 7, 8, 9, 10, 11. Maya counts 6 dragon eggs + 5 dragon eggs = 11 dragon eggs on both ledges.**

4. Deep in the cave, Maya discovers a unique item — a dragon tooth necklace with 8 teeth on it. She finds 4 more loose teeth nearby. How many dragon teeth does Maya count in all? Show your counting.

**Answer: Count on from 8: 8 ... 9, 10, 11, 12. Maya counts 8 dragon teeth + 4 dragon teeth = 12 dragon teeth in all.**

5. True or False: Maya counts 7 dragon eggs in one nest and 6 dragon eggs in another nest. Maya says she has 14 dragon eggs in all. Is Maya right? Show your counting to prove it.

**Answer: Count on from 7: 7 ... 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13. Maya counts 7 dragon eggs + 6 dragon eggs = 13 dragon eggs. 13 does NOT equal 14. This is FALSE — Maya has 13 dragon eggs, not 14.**

6. Maya reaches a hidden treasure chest. Inside she finds 9 special objects — glowing dragon gems. Outside the chest sit 8 more gems. How many dragon gems does Maya count in all? Show every count.

**Answer: Count on from 9: 9 ... 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17. Maya counts 9 dragon gems + 8 dragon gems = 17 dragon gems in all.**

7. Fill in the blank: Maya counts dragon footprints on three tunnel paths. Path 1 has 5 prints. Path 2 has 6 prints. Path 3 has 4 prints. Maya counts  $5 + 6 + 4 = \underline{\quad}$  dragon prints in all. Show every count.

**Answer: First count on:  $5 + 6$  — count on from 5: 5 ... 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11. Then add 4 more: count on from 11: 11 ... 12, 13, 14, 15. Maya counts  $5 + 6 + 4 = 15$  dragon footprints in all.**

8. Maya reaches the dragon's hidden treasure room! She sees 10 dragon gems in one pile. She counts 7 more in a second pile. Then the dragon gives Maya 3 rare finds — ancient dragon coins — to keep. How many treasure pieces does Maya count in all? Show every count. What is Maya's grand total as she walks out of the dragon cave?

**Answer: Step 1 — count the gems: count on from 10: 10 ... 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17. So  $10 + 7 = 17$  dragon gems. Step 2 — add the rare find coins: count on from 17: 17 ... 18, 19, 20. So  $17 + 3 = 20$**

treasure pieces. Maya walks out of the dragon cave with 20 treasure pieces in all — she completed her mission!