Maya's Magic Garden Counting Adventure

Grade 1 | math | gardening

Students will count forward and backward within 20 using a garden adventure story.

Name: _____ Date: _____

1. Maya sees 3 special seeds. She finds 2 more seeds. How many seeds does Maya have now? Count on to find out.

2. Maya digs a row. She plants 4 unique bulbs. She plants 3 more bulbs. How many bulbs did Maya plant? Fill in the blank: 4 + 3 = ___.

3. Maya finds a rare find — a shiny stone! She has 7 stones. She finds 5 more stones. How many stones does Maya have now?

4. True or false? Maya counts 6 special seeds. She gets 6 more seeds. Maya now has 14 seeds in all.

5. Maya spots a rare find under a leaf. She has 9 rare find gems. She digs up 5 more gems. How many gems does Maya count now?

6. Maya opens a hidden treasure box. It holds 8 unique coins. Maya finds 9 more coins nearby. Fill in: 8 + 9 = ___. Show every count.

7. Maya counts 15 special flower pots. She gives 6 pots to her friend. How many pots does Maya have left? Count back to find out.

8. Maya reaches the hidden treasure at the garden's end. She counts 20 rare find jewels inside. She keeps 8 jewels and shares the rest. How many jewels does Maya share? Write the number pattern: 20, ___, ___, ___, ___, ___, ___, ___, 8. How many did Maya share?

Answer Key: Maya's Magic Garden Counting Adventure

GRADE 1 | TEACHER & PARENT USE ONLY

After Q5, ask students to act out Maya's rare find by placing linking cubes on a 'garden mat' — students count on from 9 to reach 14 together, matching the exact numbers in that question.

1. Maya sees 3 special seeds. She finds 2 more seeds. How many seeds does Maya have now? Count on to find out.

Answer: Start at 3. Count on 2 more: 4, 5. Maya has 3 + 2 = 5 special seeds.

2. Maya digs a row. She plants 4 unique bulbs. She plants 3 more bulbs. How many bulbs did Maya plant? Fill in the blank: 4 + 3 = ___.

Answer: Start at 4. Count on 3 more: 5, 6, 7. 4 + 3 = 7 unique bulbs.

3. Maya finds a rare find — a shiny stone! She has 7 stones. She finds 5 more stones. How many stones does Maya have now?

Answer: Start at 7. Count on 5 more: 8, 9, 10, 11, 12. Maya has 7 + 5 = 12 rare find stones.

4. True or false? Maya counts 6 special seeds. She gets 6 more seeds. Maya now has 14 seeds in all.

Answer: Start at 6. Count on 6 more: 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12. 6 + 6 = 12, NOT 14. The answer is FALSE.

5. Maya spots a rare find under a leaf. She has 9 rare find gems. She digs up 5 more gems. How many gems does Maya count now?

Answer: Start at 9. Count on 5 more: 10, 11, 12, 13, 14. Maya has 9 + 5 = 14 rare find gems.

6. Maya opens a hidden treasure box. It holds 8 unique coins. Maya finds 9 more coins nearby. Fill in: 8 + 9 = ___. Show every count.

Answer: Start at 8. Count on 9 more: 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17. 8 + 9 = 17 unique coins in the hidden treasure.

7. Maya counts 15 special flower pots. She gives 6 pots to her friend. How many pots does Maya have left? Count back to find out.

Answer: Start at 15. Count back 6: 14, 13, 12, 11, 10, 9. Maya has 15 - 6 = 9 special flower pots left.

8. Maya reaches the hidden treasure at the garden's end. She counts 20 rare find jewels inside. She keeps 8 jewels and shares the rest. How many jewels does Maya share? Write the number pattern: 20, ___, ___, ___, ___, ___, ___, ___, 8. How many did Maya share?

Answer: Start at 20. Count back to 8: 20, 19, 18, 17, 16, 15, 14, 13, 12, 11, 10, 9, 8. Count the steps taken: 1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8,9,10,11,12. But we subtract: 20 - 8 = 12. The pattern shows: 20, 18, 16, 14, 12, 10, 8 (skip-count back by 2 — extension bridge). Maya shares 20 - 8 = 12 rare find jewels. Maya finishes her adventure with 8 jewels and shares 12 with her friends!