

# Maya's Nature Hunt: Counting Adventure

Grade 1

math

nature

Students will count to 20 and count on from any number using a nature adventure story.

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

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

1. Maya finds 3 special stones. She finds 2 more. How many special stones does Maya have now? Show your work:  $3 + 2 = \underline{\quad}$

2. Maya spots 4 unique feathers on a log. She counts 3 more nearby. Fill in the blank:  $4 + 3 = \underline{\quad}$

3. Maya finds 6 rare seeds in a nest. She finds 5 seeds under a leaf. How many rare seeds total? Show your work:  $6 + 5 = \underline{\quad}$

4. Maya lines up 9 unique shells. She adds 4 more shells. True or false: Maya has 14 unique shells. Circle one: TRUE / FALSE. Show your work:  $9 + 4 = \underline{\quad}$

5. Maya puts rare finds in a row. She starts at 8 and counts on 6 more. What number does Maya land on? 8 ...  
\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_ , \_\_\_\_ , \_\_\_\_ , \_\_\_\_ , \_\_\_\_

6. Maya collects hidden treasure: 7 gold rocks in the morning. She collects 8 more gold rocks at noon. She gives 2 gold rocks to her friend. How many hidden treasure rocks does Maya have left? Show every step.

7. Maya counts special objects in 2 bags. Bag 1 has 9 special acorns. Bag 2 has 8 special acorns. She counts them all starting from 9. What is the pattern she counts? 9, \_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_. How many acorns in all?

8. Maya reaches the hidden treasure at the big oak tree! She counts all her rare finds: 5 gold rocks, 6 rare seeds, and 4 unique feathers. How many rare finds did Maya collect on her whole adventure? Show every step. What is the total number Maya writes in her nature journal?

# Answer Key: Maya's Nature Hunt: Counting Adventure

GRADE 1 | TEACHER & PARENT USE ONLY

Before Q6, ask students to act out Maya lining up 15 rare finds on their desk using counters — this makes the skip-counting in Q6 and Q7 visible and concrete.

1. Maya finds 3 special stones. She finds 2 more. How many special stones does Maya have now? Show your work:  $3 + 2 = \underline{\quad}$

**Answer: Q1: 3 special stones + 2 special stones = 5 special stones. Maya has 5 special stones.**

2. Maya spots 4 unique feathers on a log. She counts 3 more nearby. Fill in the blank:  $4 + 3 = \underline{\quad}$

**Answer: Q2: 4 unique feathers + 3 unique feathers = 7 unique feathers. The answer is 7.**

3. Maya finds 6 rare seeds in a nest. She finds 5 seeds under a leaf. How many rare seeds total? Show your work:  $6 + 5 = \underline{\quad}$

**Answer: Q3: 6 rare seeds + 5 rare seeds = 11 rare seeds. Maya has 11 rare seeds.**

4. Maya lines up 9 unique shells. She adds 4 more shells. True or false: Maya has 14 unique shells. Circle one: TRUE / FALSE. Show your work:  $9 + 4 = \underline{\quad}$

**Answer: Q4: 9 unique shells + 4 unique shells = 13 unique shells. 13 does not equal 14. The answer is FALSE. Maya has 13 unique shells.**

5. Maya puts rare finds in a row. She starts at 8 and counts on 6 more. What number does Maya land on? 8 ...  
—, —, —, —, —, —

**Answer: Q5: Starting at 8, count on 6: 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14. Maya lands on 14.**

6. Maya collects hidden treasure: 7 gold rocks in the morning. She collects 8 more gold rocks at noon. She gives 2 gold rocks to her friend. How many hidden treasure rocks does Maya have left? Show every step.

**Answer: Q6 Step 1: 7 gold rocks + 8 gold rocks = 15 gold rocks. Step 2: 15 gold rocks – 2 gold rocks = 13 gold rocks. Maya has 13 hidden treasure rocks.**

7. Maya counts special objects in 2 bags. Bag 1 has 9 special acorns. Bag 2 has 8 special acorns. She counts them all starting from 9. What is the pattern she counts? 9, —, —, —, —, —, —, —, —. How many acorns in all?

**Answer: Q7: Maya counts on 8 from 9: 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17. 9 + 8 = 17. Maya has 17 special acorns in all.**

8. Maya reaches the hidden treasure at the big oak tree! She counts all her rare finds: 5 gold rocks, 6 rare seeds, and 4 unique feathers. How many rare finds did Maya collect on her whole adventure? Show every step. What is the total number Maya writes in her nature journal?

**Answer: Q8 Step 1: 5 gold rocks + 6 rare seeds = 11 items. Step 2: 11 items + 4 unique feathers = 15 items. Maya collected 15 rare finds. She writes 15 in her nature journal and completes her adventure!**

