Maya's Big Trip: Counting Adventure

Grade 1 math travel

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

Name: _____ Date: _____

1. Maya found 3 special objects. She found 2 more. How many special objects does Maya have now? Count up to find out!

2. Maya sees 7 unique items in a row. Count them. What number comes next after 7? Write it in the box: 5, 6, 7, ___

3. Maya packs 4 rare finds in bag one. She packs 5 rare finds in bag two. How many rare finds does Maya pack in all?

4. Maya had 10 unique items. She used up 3 on her trip. How many unique items does Maya have left?

5. Fill in the blanks. Maya counts her special objects: 11, 12, ___, 14, ___, 16. What two numbers are missing?

6. Maya loaded 8 rare finds into her pack. Then she found 7 more rare finds in a cave. How many rare finds does Maya have in all? Show your counting.

7. True or False: Maya counted 20 hidden treasure coins. She spent 5 coins. Maya says she has 16 coins left. Is Maya right?

8. Maya reached the hidden treasure chest at last! Inside she found 9 special objects and 9 unique items. How many things did Maya find in the chest? Show every step. Maya wins the trip!

Answer Key: Maya's Big Trip: Counting Adventure

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After Q6, ask students to act out Maya packing 15 rare finds into her bag — have them count aloud as they tap their desk for each one. This anchors the counting sequence from Q6 directly in their bodies before they write.

1. Maya found 3 special objects. She found 2 more. How many special objects does Maya have now? Count up to find out!

Answer: Start at 3. Count up 2 more: 4, 5. 3 + 2 = 5 special objects.

2. Maya sees 7 unique items in a row. Count them. What number comes next after 7? Write it in the box: 5, 6, 7, ___

Answer: Count on from 7: the next number is 8. 7 + 1 = 8.

3. Maya packs 4 rare finds in bag one. She packs 5 rare finds in bag two. How many rare finds does Maya pack in all?

Answer: Start at 4. Count up 5 more: 5, 6, 7, 8, 9. 4 + 5 = 9 rare finds.

4. Maya had 10 unique items. She used up 3 on her trip. How many unique items does Maya have left?

Answer: Start at 10. Count back 3: 9, 8, 7. 10 - 3 = 7 unique items.

5. Fill in the blanks. Maya counts her special objects: 11, 12, ___, 14, ___, 16. What two numbers are missing?

Answer: The pattern counts up by 1 each time. Missing numbers: 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16. The answers are 13 and 15.

6. Maya loaded 8 rare finds into her pack. Then she found 7 more rare finds in a cave. How many rare finds does Maya have in all? Show your counting.

Answer: Start at 8. Count up 7 more: 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15. 8 + 7 = 15 rare finds.

7. True or False: Maya counted 20 hidden treasure coins. She spent 5 coins. Maya says she has 16 coins left. Is Maya right?

Answer: Start at 20. Count back 5: 19, 18, 17, 16, 15. 20 - 5 = 15 coins. Maya said 16. That is WRONG. The answer is FALSE.

8. Maya reached the hidden treasure chest at last! Inside she found 9 special objects and 9 unique items. How many things did Maya find in the chest? Show every step. Maya wins the trip!

Answer: Step 1 — count the special objects: 9. Step 2 — count up 9 unique items from 9: 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18. Step 3 — 9 + 9 = 18. Maya found 18 things in the hidden treasure chest. Maya completes her adventure!