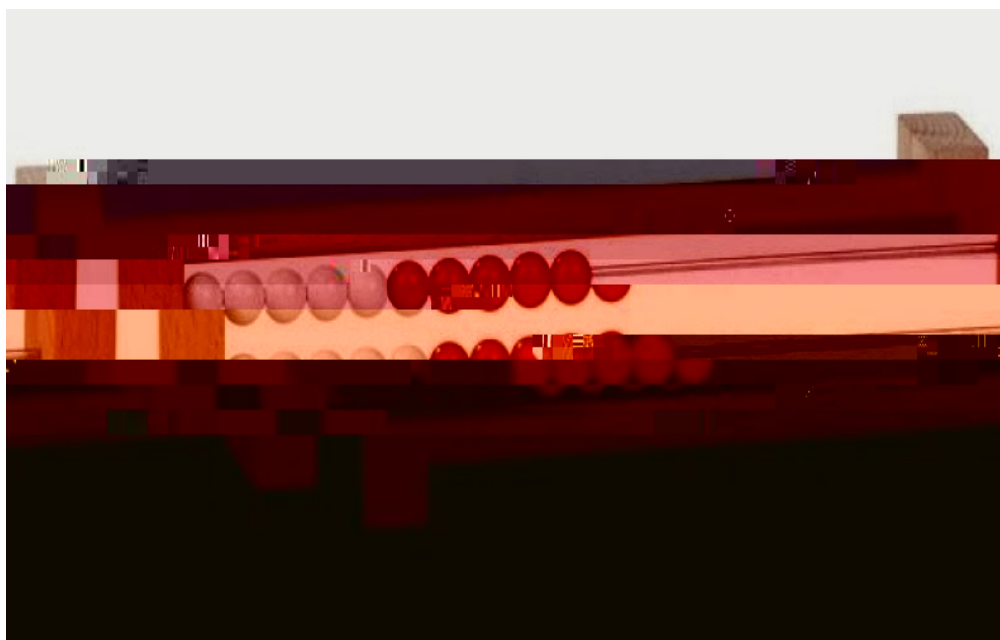


Two-Dimensional and Three-Dimensional Shapes

How you can help at home:

Key Common Core Standards:

- Classify objects and count the number of objects in each category



Spotlight on Math Models:

Rekenreks

Students will use this tool to represent numbers in more and complex ways as they grow.

A Story of Units has several key mathematical “models” that will be used throughout a student’s elementary years.

The rekenrek is a kind of abacus that was developed in The Netherlands but has many variations in other world cultures. In A Story of Units, rekenreks are used in kindergarten first simply as a model of numbers 1-5. Later, the white and red beads can be used to illustrate numbers up to 10, and then 20.

There are a variety of skills that students can practice on the rekenrek, including simple counting, skip counting, and eventually beginning addition and subtraction concepts. In the early months of kindergarten, we use the rekenrek to practice fluency with counting up and down.

Using the Rekenrek

Students can easily see groups of 5, and can move the beads to show their counting and thinking as they put numbers together and take them apart (compose and decompose numbers).

