Ten Sly Piranhas Practice Ideas

Dear Parents,

We have been reading the book *Ten Sly Piranhas: A Counting Story in Reverse (A Tale of Wickedness and Worse!)*. This is a wonderful story introducing subtraction.

To reinforce the concepts introduced in the book and strengthen subtraction skills, here are some ideas you can try at home with your child:

- Count out 10 Goldfish crackers and have your child "gulp" down one at a time. Talk about how many crackers there were before and after the "gulp."
- Have your child draw a picture of a river. Have them retell the story with Goldfish crackers.
- Using 10 small items from around your home (buttons, Legos, cars, cereal) to practice subtraction.
- After practicing subtraction with the items, repeat and write numbers along with subtraction.
- Using the crackers or small items, have your child tell you subtraction stories. These are simple tales that give meaning to the subtraction process. For example: "Five birds were in the nest. Two flew away. Three birds are still in the nest."
- Have your child make a book retelling the story of the piranhas.   Let them read it to you.
- Involve your child in everyday subtraction around your home. Talk about what you are doing with them and have them solve the problem. "We need five glasses for dinner. I have three on the table. How many more glasses do I need?"

Use your imagination and have fun with your child. Math is an important skill we use everyday. Make it fun!

Thank you for your help!

Daily Math Journal

Print one at the top of each page for Kindergarten Math Journals.

1. Ten crocodiles are swimming in the river. Three climb out to rest. How many are still swimming?
2. Five sly piranhas are looking for food. They find seven fish. The piranhas each eat one fish. How many fish are left?
3. Eight frogs are swimming. There are six lily pads that can fit one frog. The frogs jump to the lily pads. How many frogs do not have a pad?
4. Ten piranhas are tired. Six go to sleep. How many are awake?
5. Two anteaters find an anthill with ten ants. They each eat four. How many ants got away?
6. Nine piranhas are swimming. Two crocodiles eat four piranhas each. How many piranhas are left swimming?
7. Seven blue butterflies land on a tree. Two iguanas each eat three. How many butterflies fly away?
8. Ten piranhas swim by two caves. Three go into each cave. How many are still in the river?
9. Eight tired turtles see six rocks to sleep on. How many turtles must still look for a sleeping spot?
10. Four bright macaws see ten beetles. They each eat two. How many beetles get away?