## Numeral Tracks



Each numeral track will use two 4 by 15 rectangles of mat board. Directions to create one track are given here.

1. Cut one 4 by 15 board into 5 equal rectangles (cut each rectangle to have 3 inch widths) to make the door panels.
2. Affix doors to back panel using duct tape.
3. Cut duct tape between door panels so the doors will open and close
Use sentence strips to create inserts. Trim strips to fit, then use track to create dividing lines. Write in the desired numeral sequence.

Up to 6 numeral tracks can typically be used comfortably with a single student or a small group. Tracks are often arranged in rows of 2 with up to 3 rows.

Ideas for inserts

- Basic sequences: 1-5, 6-10, 11-15, 16-20, 21-25, etc. to 100.
- Selected sequences above 100
- "Off pattern" sequences such as 28-32, 43-47 or 89-93
- Skip counting sequences such as $3,6,9,12,15$ or $10,20,30,40,50$.


## Activities

- Ask child to open door with each number as they count (either forward or backward).
- Have child count and open door after word is said as a "check" (either forward or backward).
- Open a door and ask about numeral before/after.
- Open a door and ask child to determine where a different number is located.
- Open a door, mark a door that is several panels away and ask "What number is here?"
- Give child numeral cards in same range as track(s). Open a door or a few doors to use as a reference. Ask child to figure out where each card would go.


## Purpose

- Practice and support of saying forward number word sequence and backward number word sequence.
- Opening one door with each count can help child develop idea of matching 1 single counting word to a single action (emerging 1-1 correspondence).
- Numeral track provides screening of numerals but numerals can be shown for support and/or verification.
- Develop ideas of before/after.
- New inserts can easily be made to address any sequence range.


## File Folders tracks (a less expensive alternative)

Inexpensive numeral tracks can be made from legal sized folder. One folder will make 1 track with 2 inserts.

1. Cut file folder 4 inches from crease. From scraps, cut two 3 inch strips using the width of the folder.
2. Cut file folder at crease then tape back together with masking tape. (This step is optional but will help track to lay flat.)
3. Cut front into 5 equal panels. Each panel will be slightly less than 3 inches wide.
4. Mark numeral strip into 5 regions using the doors of the track. Write in desired numeral sequence.
5. Regular sentence strips may be cut down and used for additional inserts.
