



Primary



Lower El

Focus

## Math

EXERCISE 03

### Parent Objective

To aid your child's ability to think quickly when working with numbers.

*"One test of the correctness of educational procedure is the happiness of the child."*

Dr. Maria Montessori



Benevolently Provided by  
**Judy Laidlaw**

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Maria Montessori's Education of the Mathematical Mind

# "BUZZ" Number Game

### Materials:

None. The only requirement is that the children playing can count by rote to 100.

### Preparation:

Gather family and/or friends. There is no limit to the number that can join in this game. It can be fun for all ages.

### Instructions:

1. Invite those gathered to play a game called "BUZZ".
2. Participants arrange themselves in a circle.
3. Explain that as a group you will be counting, as quickly as is possible, to 100, moving clockwise around the circle. Each person says the next consecutive number – unless that number contains a 7. If it does, he or she instead says "BUZZ".
4. If a player forgets and says a number containing a 7, his or her turn moves to the next player.

### Optional Extensions:

1. A possible "consequence" for accidentally saying the number 7 rather than "BUZZ" can be determined by the group before starting the game. It's usually something like standing up and hopping on one foot 7 times, 7 jumping jacks, etc. Be creative.
2. If children become skilled at playing "BUZZ" 1-100, challenge them by suggesting that they try to play counting backwards, starting with 100.

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### A Note from Judy:

I learned this game while teaching a Kindergarten curriculum unit on the early American Pilgrims. **"BUZZ"** was played in our country's earliest one-room schools, and assisted children in learning how to count by rote to 100. My students found it to be as much fun as the Pilgrim children evidently did!