Elmo's Math Adventure

Join Elmo and his friends as they discover math all around them!

Story by Leslie Kimmelman  Illustrated by Barry Goldberg
Dear Parents and Caregivers,
Math is all around, and discovering it can be an adventure! With the fun activities in this book, you and your child can help Elmo and friends find math everywhere. Play the game on pages 6 and 7, and use this book again and again! Look for the pink Abby Cadabby tips for ideas on how to explore math in your own home.

One day, Elmo and his mommy were cleaning up after a yummy lunch.

“Mommy, Elmo will help you put these plates in the sink,” Elmo said. “One, two, three, four. Four plates!”

“Thank you,” said Elmo’s mommy. “Elmo, you just did math by counting the plates all together in the sink!”

“Oh, boy! Elmo had fun doing math,” Elmo said with a giggle. Just then, Elmo had an idea. “Mommy, Elmo wants to go on a math adventure on Sesame Street!”

“Great idea,” said Elmo’s mommy. “I’ll bet you can find math everywhere!”

**NUMBERS EVERYWHERE** Help Elmo start his math adventure by finding the numbers 1 to 15 in the kitchen.
Hi, fairy friend. You can have a math adventure, too. Look for numbers in your kitchen and all around your home. What fabulous numbers can you find? I love math!
As Elmo continued his adventure, he saw Zoe.
“Hi, Elmo,” Zoe called. “Would you like to come to a picnic?”
“No, thank you, Zoe,” Elmo replied. “Elmo is on a math adventure!”
“Well, we can do math now,” said Zoe. “Look! There are three
guests at my party: Mimi, Elephant, and me…”
“…and one Elmo!” said Elmo. “That equals four guests all together.”
“This is fun! I want to join your math adventure,” said Zoe.
“What’s next?”
“Let’s find out!” said Elmo.
Hi, fairy friend. When it’s laundry time, try sorting your socks by size. I like to sort them by patterns. Wow!

Bert saw Elmo and Zoe walking by. “Elmo, Zoe! Will you sort socks with me?” he asked.

“Not now, Bert. Elmo and Zoe are on a math adventure,” Elmo replied.

“But sorting is math,” Bert said. “Watch!” He helped Elmo make one pile of socks with triangles and another pile of socks with rectangles. Zoe made one pile of big socks and one pile of small socks.

“Socks rock!” Elmo giggled. “There’s so much math in sorting socks.”

“Math is a blast!” said Bert. “Could we do more?”

“Sure,” said Elmo. “Let’s go find more math!”

SORTING SOCKS
Help Bert, Elmo, and Zoe do math with socks! Turn to the Laundry Time cutouts page and cut out the socks. How many different ways can you sort them?
Afterward, Bert, Elmo, and Zoe saw Grover on Sesame Street.
“Guess what, Grover?” Elmo said. “Elmo and his friends are on a math adventure!”
“What a good idea,” said Grover. “I have another idea. Let us build an exciting math obstacle course together!”
“Yes!” shouted Elmo, Zoe, and Bert. Elmo put one pillow on the grass. Zoe and Bert built an arch out of blocks. Grover made a surprise for the end of the obstacle course.

“We will jump over the pillow,” Grover said. “Then we will crawl under the arch and into the box. But it is not just a box; it is a rocket ship.”

“Wow!” exclaimed Elmo. “We’ll go over, under, and in, then count down, lift off, and travel around the moon!”

YOU CAN PLAY, TOO! Play by yourself or with friends. Turn to the Game Time cutouts page and cut out the numbers and the Sesame friends. Place Elmo, Bert, and Zoe on “start.” Place the number cards in a hat or bag. Place the shape cards in a different bag or hat.

TWO WAYS TO PLAY!

1 Counting On: Draw a number card and move ahead that number of spaces. “Count on” as you move: If you are on space “4” and draw a “3,” count out loud as you move your Sesame friend: “5, 6, 7.” Place your card back in the bag.

2 Get in Shape: Draw a shape card and move ahead to the next shape that matches the one on your card. Place your card back in the bag.

For both ways to play, keep playing until all the players have reached “finish.” Count down to blast off! Then take off and explore space!
“That was fun,” said Grover. “What is next on our math adventure?”

Elmo saw Cookie Monster at Hooper’s Store. There was food on the table, but Cookie wasn’t eating.

“Isn’t Cookie Monster hungry?” Elmo asked.

“Of course me hungry,” Cookie said, “but me need help counting.” Cookie wanted to eat from the plate with the most food first, and the least food last.

“We’ll help you count,” Zoe said.

“We’re math explorers,” said Bert. “We boldly count where no one has counted before!”

MORE OR LESS Help Elmo and his friends count the corn kernels, beans, peas, and cookies on each plate. Which plate has the most things on it? Which has the fewest things? Which food will Cookie Monster eat first? Which will he eat last?
“Thank you. Me eat now,” said Cookie Monster. “Wait a minute! What that me see?”

It was Abby Cadabby, carrying a tasty-looking pumpkin pie.

“One pumpkin pie?” asked Cookie Monster. “Just enough for me.”

“It is 1 pie,” Abby said, “but we could share – and each have 1 piece of pie.”

Zoe knew what to do. “We love math,” she said to Abby. “We can help you count how many pieces of pie we need all together!”

**OH, MY! PIE!** Can everyone share the sweet treat?

Turn the page to help them find out.

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Find eight things that are the same and you can play my “Eight Things” game.

Place eight things in one long row...

Eight spoons or crayons; count them – go!

Try two rows of four; count them now.

Still eight things? Terrific! Wow!

Spread them out or push them near, you still have eight!

Let’s hear a cheer!
“OK, everybodeee!” said Grover. “Let’s count!”

Everyone began to count the pieces of pie: 1 for Elmo, 1 for Zoe, 1 for Bert, 1 for Grover, 1 for Abby, and, of course, 1 for Cookie Monster.

“Cowabunga!” said Cookie Monster.

“Yay! Pie party!” Elmo cheered.

“Who knew math was so tasty? Elmo wants to have a math adventure every day!”
Use these **PICNIC TIME** cutouts to play the game on page 4.

Use these **GAME TIME** cutouts to play the game on pages 6–7.
Use these **LAUNDRY TIME** cutouts to play the game on page 5.