

Numeracy Gr 1 February 1

Activity 1: Counting on Katherine

Materials Needed:

- The book *Counting on Katherine* by Helaine Becker and Dow Phumiruk, or listen to the read-aloud [here](#). Print out of sheets 2 and 3, and pencils, crayons or pencil crayons.

Task Instructions:

Read the book *Counting on Katherine* or watch with your child. Pause to discuss important elements of the story. February is Black History Month, so our book connections this month will focus on diversity and anti-racism. It is important that children see a variety of representations of mathematicians so they feel comfortable aspiring to success in math. Read through the book a second time and get your child answer the questions on the following pages.

Parent Tips:

You may need to talk to your child about the following vocabulary:

arc: a smooth curving line

calculate: to use mathematics to solve problems

computer: name for a person that did mathematics for NASA a long time ago (now we use machines to do that)

launch: to send a rocket into air or space

mathematician: a person who is trained in the study of numbers and calculations

parabola: a type of curve, such as the path of something that is tossed up in the air and comes down in a different place

segregated: to keep people physically apart from each other based on race

variable: able to be changed or adapted

yearn: to really want something

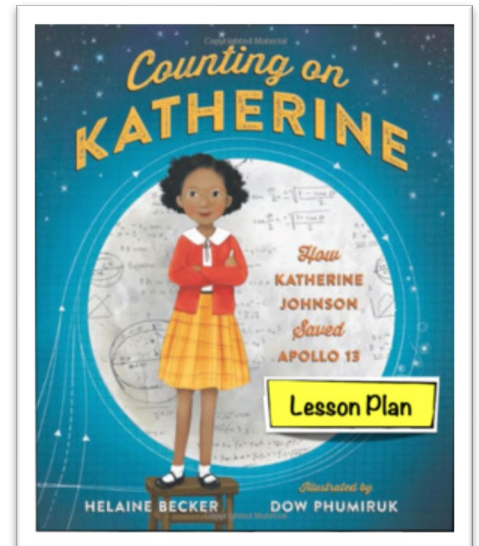
Math Idioms:

o count on me

o counting on

o back to square one

o on cloud nine





Cultural Representation Reflection

Counting on Katherine

by Helaine Becker and Dow Phumiruk

Name _____



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What do you see?

Draw or use words to describe yourself.

Draw or use words to describe a character from the book.

Look at the boxes above. What do you notice is similar?

What do you notice is different?



Cultural Representation Reflection
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Familiar and New

Think about the book. **Circle** the things that are Familiar and **underline** the things that are New.

Appearances

Foods

Actions

Languages

Feelings

Places

What do you see in the book that you have also seen in your school, home, or community?

What do you see in the book that you have NOT seen in your school, home, or community?