

Numeracy Gr 3 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

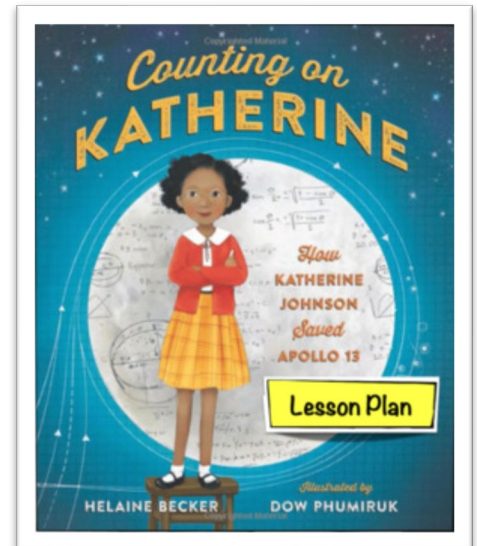
Math Idioms:

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 _____



TeachingBooks™

Venn Diagram Activity: The book and you

Consider the characters in the text: for example, personality, physical traits, language, food, and interests. What do you notice about the characters? What about you? Pause and reflect on similarities.

Characters in the Book

You

Similarities

Consider the setting in the text: for example, neighborhood, community, home, climate, and era. What do you see in the book? What do you see in your own world? Pause and reflect on similarities.

Setting in the Book

Setting in Your World

Similarities



Cultural Representation Reflection
Counting on Katherine
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Familiar and New

How does it feel to find familiar things in the text?

Circle all that apply

loved great sad interested okay
included embarrassed chill bad
emotional frustrated proud angry
excluded lonely happy supported
disappointed ignored other surprised

Explain 1-2 of the feelings you chose.

How does it feel to find unfamiliar things in the text?

Circle all that apply

loved great sad interested okay
included embarrassed chill bad
emotional frustrated proud angry
excluded lonely happy supported
disappointed ignored other surprised

Explain 1-2 of the feelings you chose.

What do you notice in the book that feels unfamiliar in your own school, home, or community?