

Nuts to You! Lesson Plan | Scholastic.com

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The subject matter easily lends itself to the creation of some fun number sentences. Students enjoy hearing about the antics of this squirrel, even more so when they realize *Nuts to You!* is based on an actual event.

Students will "write number sentences using +, -, <, =, and/or > to represent mathematical relationships in everyday situations." --*Massachusetts Mathematics Curriculum Frameworks*

Materials

- Nuts to You! by Lois Ehlert
- writing paper, one sheet per student
- pencils
- mixed nuts, in their shells (enough for each student to have 10 to 20)
- copy of the squirrel in the window box, one copy per student

Set Up and Prepare

Be certain you don't use peanuts, as many students are allergic to them. You may also want to check to see if your mixed nuts were bagged in a facility that processes peanuts. It's also important to remind students that these nuts have shells and they could hurt their teeth by trying to eat them.

Directions

Demonstrate how to add and subtract nuts by moving them on and off the squirrel paper. Read students a number sentence and have them write it out as they act it out with the nuts.

Example: The squirrel had 3 nuts. (Students should put 3 nuts on their squirrel paper and write 3 on their writing paper.) He was hungry from gathering nuts all day, so he ate 1 of the nuts. (Students should take 1 nut off their squirrel paper and write -1 on their writing paper.) How many nuts did the squirrel have left? (Students should write = and the answer to the problem.)

Continue by making up new number sentences for students to solve.

Lesson Extensions

Have students work in pairs to create and write their own number sentences.

- Subjects:
Reading, Math
- Skills:
Listening Comprehension

- Duration:

40 Mins