

Math and its Uses



Based on: Math and Its Uses by Jiya G
Illustrated by: Dhruvika Mittal



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Introduction for Ministry of Education Online Early Childhood Education Teaching and Learning Materials

The Liberia Ministry of Education has developed 50 context-relevant and age-appropriate early childhood education readers. These readers would be addressing the chronic need of improving the quality of teaching and learning materials and the widespread lack of curriculum materials for foundational literacy and play-based learning. Twenty-five of these ECD readers were written by ECE master trainers and, 25 were contextualized using online open-source stories from the global digital libraries.

Welcome to this audio edition of early childhood books aligned to the Liberia Early Childhood Education Curriculum. There are 50 eBooks in this edition. The uniqueness of this Ministry of Education approach is that each book has a sign language version.

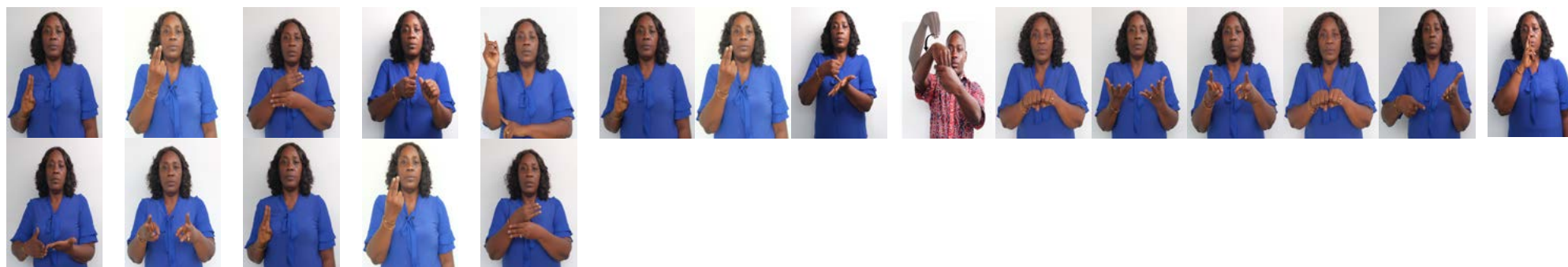
The books come in three categories or levels:

- Beginner or nursery is for children ages 3 to 4
- Intermediate or K-I is for children ages 4 to 5 and
- Advance or K-II is for children ages 5 to 6

The development and production of these books were made possible through the Bureau of Early Childhood Education of the Ministry of Education, with support from the Global Partnership for Education with funding from the World Bank. The eBooks and the accompanying audio books were designed by WE-CARE Foundation, a local educational NGO.

To access these early childhood books online, please go to the Ministry of Education website: www.moe.gov.lr

We use math every day. We use it in so many ways. So, what are some ways we use math?



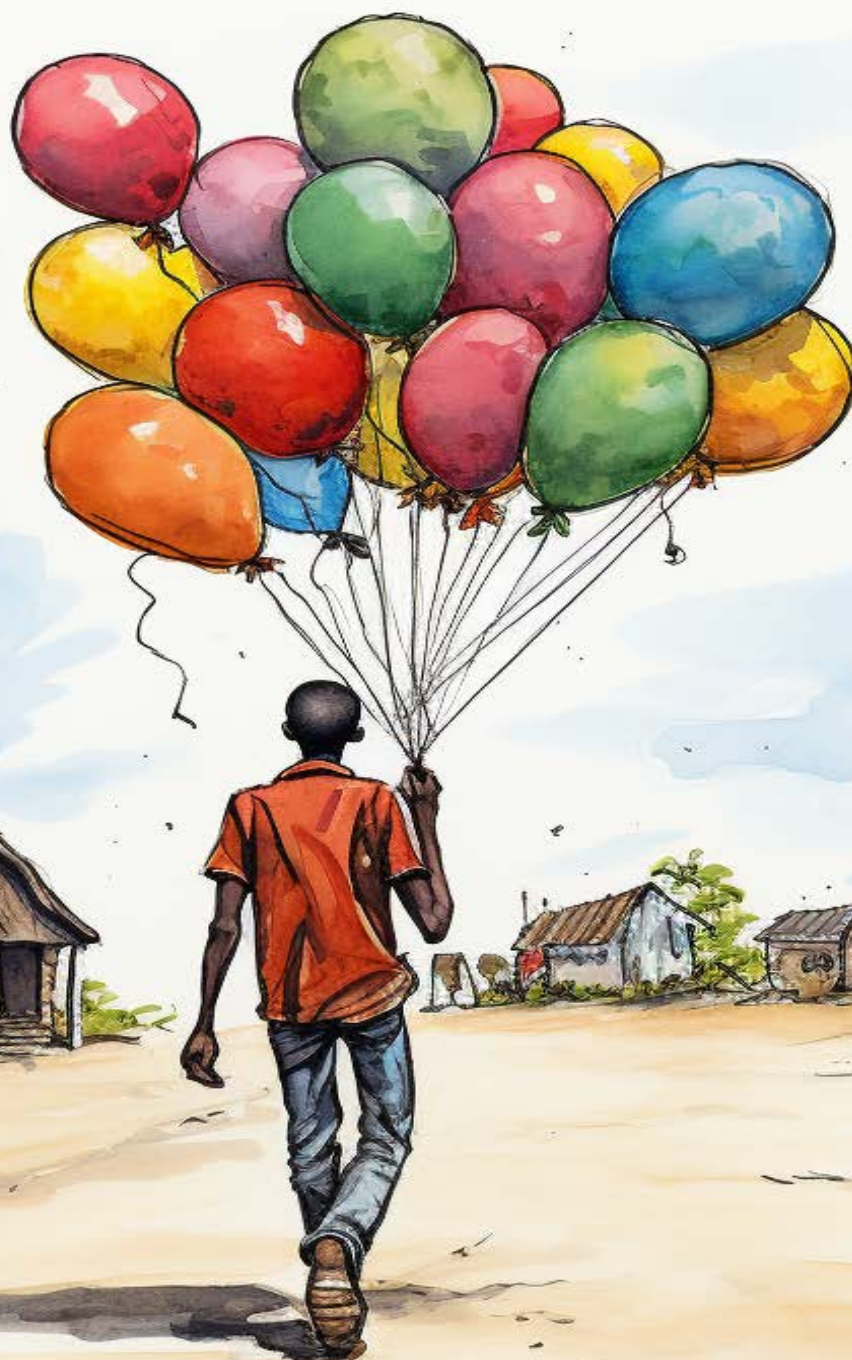
First, how many people are in your family? You start counting. 1- Mama, 2- Papa, 3- Auntie, 4- Moses, 5- Me, and 6- Mary. You've counted six persons. That's math!



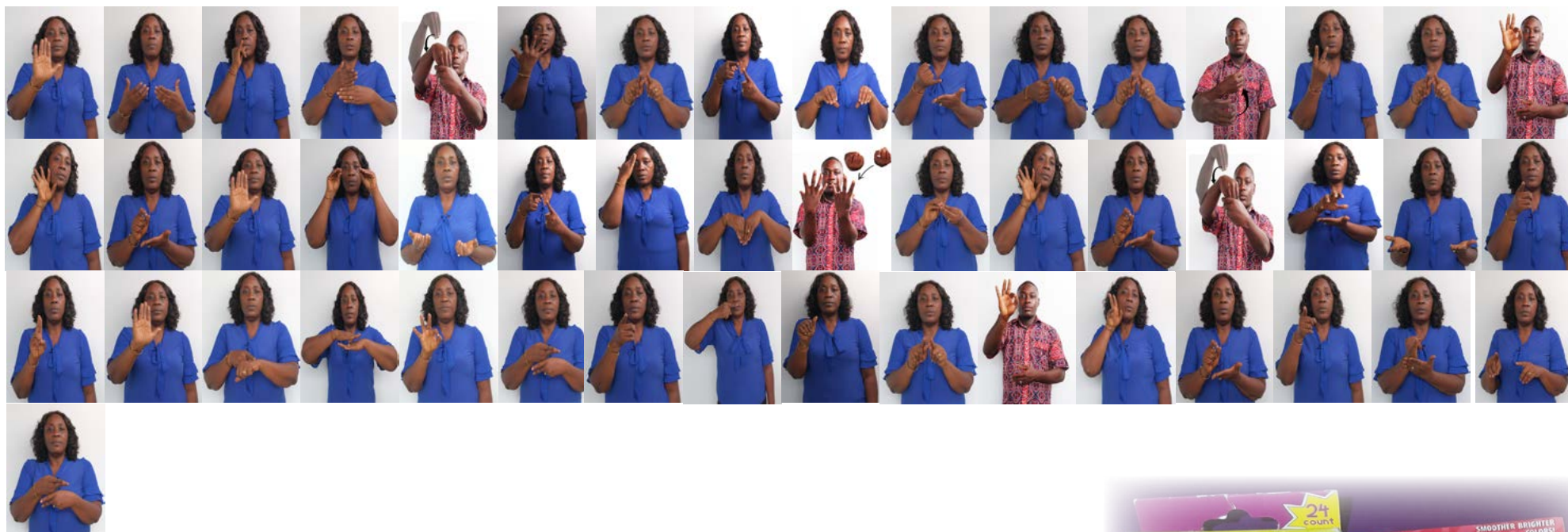
Mama buys six mangoes, two avocados, one pineapple, and four apples. She wants to know how many fruits in all. You go to work by adding. $6 + 2 + 1 + 4 = 13$. Thirteen fruits to make the fruit salad!



Papa brought home ten balloons. He says three of them are for you. How many are left if you give your brother and sister? You've got, $10 - 3 = 7$. You just did subtraction. Your fingers are good tools for doing subtraction.



Your class is divided into five groups to do drawing. Each group gets two packs of color pencils. Your teacher wants to know how many number color of pencils in all. Here, you use your timetable or multiplication. You say, $5 \times 2 = 10$ packs of color pencils. You just did multiplication!



You found nine mangoes under the tree this morning. You want to share them equally with you, your brother and sister. How many will each get? $9 \div 3 = 3$. Each person gets 3 mangoes. This is division.



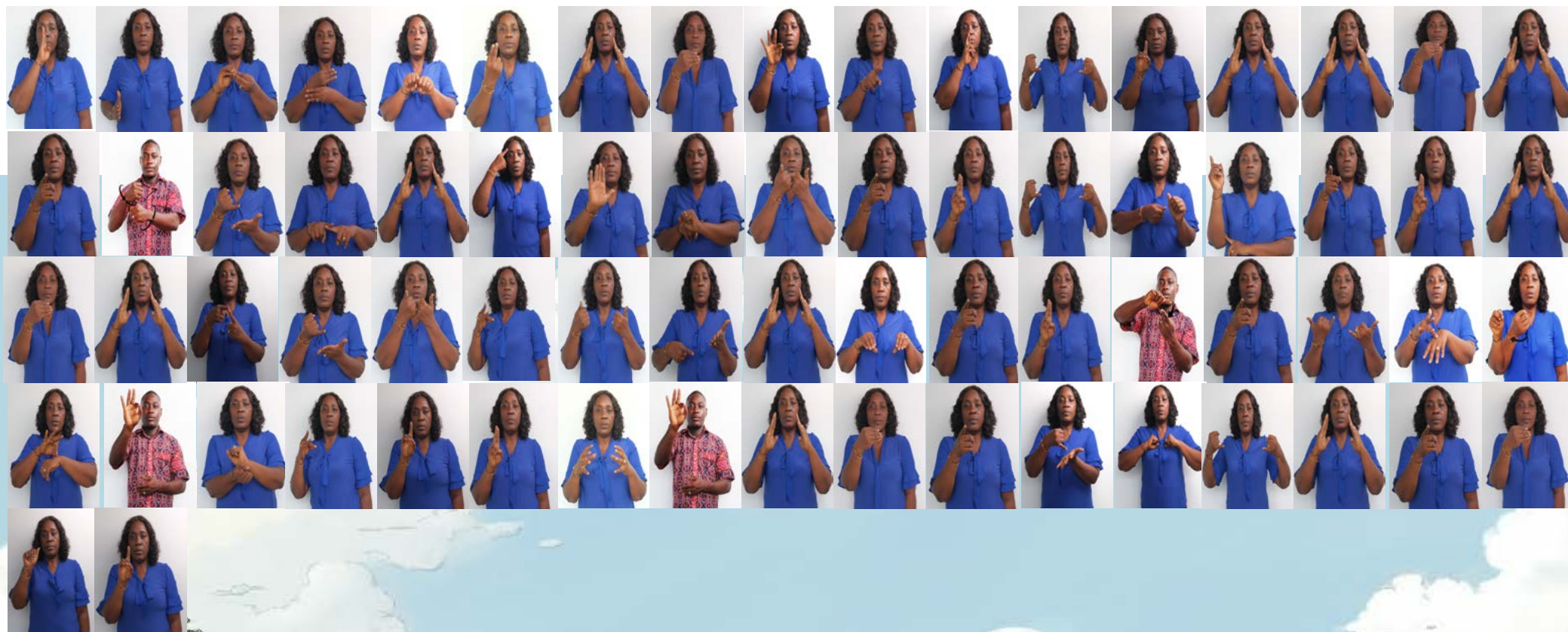
The next morning you find seven. How many will each get now? $7 \div 3 = 2$ remainder 1. Each person gets two mangoes with one left.



You are given thirty dollars to use for recess. You want to buy biscuits. A pack of biscuits is sold for twenty dollars. How many biscuits will you buy? How much will be left with you? Again this is subtraction. Can you solve it?



Besides, numbers, math also uses shapes and figures. These include lines, circles, triangles, squares, and rectangles. You may draw different shapes for your marble game. You use lines every day. You use squares and rectangles to draw games like hopscotch. What shape do you use when you play touch? The fields of sports like football use lots of shapes and figures. It has lines, rectangles, squares, and a circle.



Another way we use math is to group things. We put them in sets. We do this in the market, in the shops, in stores, and at home. Your class is a set of boys and girls of a special level! It will be confusing if we mix everything up. So we put things of the same kind together. That is why we can't do without math.



Reading Level: Intermediate (Age 4 -6)

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Synopsis

Learn how we use math in our every day life.

