

What's 1st?

STATION GUIDE



Want to learn more about playing math?
Visit www.zenomath.org

Overview

This guide provides information on how to setup and facilitate a small group of 2-7 children or a center station to play the Zeno Game, What's 1st?. At least one adult should be present when playing.

Some of these instructions assume that children can work cooperatively with one another. If that is not developmentally appropriate for the children you are working with, it may be best to have more adults to serve as the children's partners.

Small group play should last 5-10 minutes and should focus on no more than 2 game levels at a time.

When playing, refrain from using "no" to direct children. The word "no" does not provide children with any skills or verbal guidance.

It is critical that you play the game in your classroom for the week prior to sending it home to ensure that children are excited and comfortable to take it home and play with their families.



Goal

In this game your children will learn how to sequence and put things in order.

Before You Begin

Remember that it is important to give children time to freely play with the game materials and explore the game concepts of sequencing and ordinal numbers.

Please ensure that children have had adequate time to explore the game and its concept prior to small groups.





Level 1



Yellow Mat x3



Bears x3



1st Hexagon x3

First, demonstrate how to play by placing the bears on the yellow mat and asking the children to help you identify which bear is in 1st place in the race.



Now, it's their turn! Allow children to place bears on a yellow mat and talk to you about which bear is in 1st place. Encourage them to match the 1st hexagon to the 1 on the mat.



If the children are ready for more of a challenge, ask them which bear is in 2nd, 3rd, or 4th place in the race.



Level 2

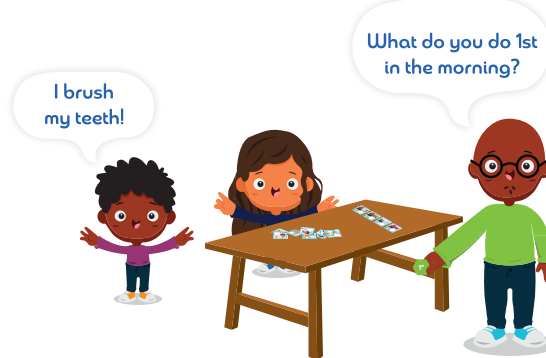


Blue Sequence Cards x3



1st-4th Hexagons x3

First, demonstrate how to play by putting the morning routine cards in order from what you do 1st to 4th. Ask the children to help you match the hexagons to the sequence cards.



Now, it's their turn! Allow each child to choose a set of sequence cards and place them in order from 1st to 4th. Encourage the children to match the hexagons to the cards.



Keep playing until the children have had the chance to sequence all the blue cards.



Level 3



Purple Mat x3



Cups x3



Bears x3



1st-10th Hexagons x3

First, demonstrate how to play by lining up the cups on the purple mat and labeling them with the hexagons. Tell the children to cover their eyes while you hide the bears under the cups. Ask them to open their eyes and guess which cup the bear is under!



Now, it's their turn! Allow children to work in pairs and take turns hiding and finding the bears under the cups.



As the children play, encourage them to say the ordinal numbers, "1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th, etc." when they guess where the bear is.