

Getting Started with *Every Day Counts*® - Grade 2

Preparing the Every Day Counts Bulletin Board ('05 edition)

Step 1: (30 min)

If you are new to *Every Day Counts*, before you unpack your kit, read the front matter (p.5-9) in the *Every Day Counts* teacher's guide and also get acquainted with August/September, the first chapter (p. 16-17). This will help you get to know the kit elements and what to look for to set up for the start of school.

Step 2: (5 - ? min)

Examine your room set-up to find the best place to display *Every Day Counts* so that all students can see all the elements. A bulletin board is handy for pinning up the materials, but if such a board is not present or not in a good location for viewing, many teachers have been able to place the calendar and other elements on a wall, whiteboard, or chalkboard using tape or magnets. Some have even placed a science display board or sheet of foam core in the chalk tray to tape, or pin elements to using T pins. It is nice if you can gather the children up close to view the Calendar and other elements.

Step 3: Counting Tape and Hundred Chart - Day of School

See T Guide, p. 23-25 and click on *Samples* - Photos and Questions 2 at www.edconline.net

(25 min. prep) Begin 1st day of school or catch up to present Day of School)

- Unroll and put up at least 15 feet of the blank Adding Machine Tape from the EDC Kit. Click on 05 *Samples* to see Sept Photos and Questions for this element. The Counting Tape needn't be in the same part of the room as the other elements on the board as long as everyone can see it.
- Pull the 3" colored paper squares from the EDC Kit. You will be attaching squares of the same color on each of the first ten days of school and then alternate a second color every other ten days to 100.
- Locate the blank Hundred Chart in the EDC Kit and laminate it, if possible, to prevent staining. Have a black overhead pen available.
- As early in the new school year as possible, catch up the Hundred Chart to the Day of School and then continue to add one new number for each day of school thereafter. See Teacher's Guide, p. 23.

Step 4: Coin Counter - Day of School

See T Guide, p. 25-26, and *Samples* Photos and Questions2 at www.edconline.net

(10 min. prep) Begin early in the school year to show Day of School in cents, trading pennies for nickels, and nickels for dimes, whenever possible.

- Attach three small clear pockets from the EDC Kit to the bulletin board, one each for pennies, nickels, and dimes.
- Display a matching large Demo Coin from the EDC Kit beside each pocket.
- Place Coin Counter Record (TR8) into a large clear pocket from the Kit or laminate and place by Coin Counter. Place supply of real coins (5 pennies, 2 nickels, 4 dimes) in re-sealable baggie nearby.

Step 5: August/September Calendar and Birthday Markers

See T. Guide, p. 18-20, and click on *Samples* Photos and Questions 2 at www.edconline.net

(25 minutes prep) No lamination needed. *Note:* If you begin school in August or are year round, you may choose to use the August pieces for your first month of school. Otherwise, begin the 1st of September or catch up to present day in September. August and September reveal the same basic pattern.

- Prepare Calendar by creating slits on slit marks using an *Exacto* knife or box cutter and placing a paper clip in each slit.
- Pull apart the pieces and display them on the Calendar from Sept. 1st up to the present day of the month. After the present date, some teachers place the remaining pieces face down under each paper clip (so they can be turned over one at a time on each new day of the month).
- For children having birthdays during this first month, write each child's name and birthday on a Birthday Marker (TR 5) and invite the children to place their markers on the Calendar.

Step 6: Computations and Connections (+ and – 0, 1, 2 facts)

See T. Guide, p. 20-22, and Sept. Photos and Questions 2 at www.edconline.net

Locate the Computations and Connections poster from the EDC Kit.

Create slits on slit marks and insert paper clips to hold two small clear pockets from the Kit on the left side. Locate Double Ten Grids (TR 12) from Teacher Resource Cardstock and attach some to the right side of mat. Attach paper strips for recording equations across the bottom. Place 10 buttons, pennies, or plastic counters in a container nearby along with red and blue felt marking pens.

You are done! This is everything you will need to begin sharing the September elements with your students. September requires the greatest preparation time. Next month you will continue to use these materials and add in a couple of new items. By November all the elements will be introduced reducing preparation time for the remaining month.

To see Question Starter Cards click on *SAMPLES* at www.edconline.net:

The note cards you see accompanying each photo with starter questions can be printed as PDF files (using Acrobat Reader), cut apart, and mounted on 5x7 note cards for your easy reference during *Every Day Counts* discussions. During the month, please add to your cards questions of your own design or questions from your reading that you want to remember to try out. Some questions should aim at simply having students examine the data and describe what they see. Others questions should require students to engage in higher level thinking, requiring them to reason, analyze, make predictions, and form generalizations about concepts being explored each month.

*NOTE: By Fall 2005, our current Fall term **EDC online class** for users of the '98 *Every Day Counts* edition (audit or grad credit), will be updated for teachers using the new '05 edition. Participants will be able to log-in for access to grade level photo/question cards to support use of EDC elements each month, September through December. Participants also interact with fellow EDC users and coauthor through a grade level *Every Day Counts Discussion Board*. Inquire at edcwestj@aol.com for Fall 2005 log-in.*