

# Getting Started with Every Day Counts® - Grade 4

## 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. 8-9) in the *Every Day Counts* teacher's guide and also get acquainted with September, the first chapter, p.17 -29. This will help you get to know the kit elements and know what to look for to use in September.

### 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.

### Step 3: Counting Tape

See T Guide, P. 23-24 and click on *samples 05* Photos and Questions 4 at [www.edconline.net](http://www.edconline.net).

(15 min. prep) Begin 1<sup>st</sup> day of school or catch up to present Day of School)

- Unroll and put up 10 to 20 feet of the blank Adding Machine Tape from the Kit. The Counting Tape needn't be in the same part of the room as the other elements on the board. Beginning with the number 1 on the first day of school, each day students come to school will be recorded on the tape. On even-numbered days place a heart marker (from the EDC Kit cardstock) to mark each multiple of 2. Some teachers find it easier to write the numbers on the tape prior to putting it up and then note the progress of the days in school by moving a sticky note with an arrow along to the next number on the tape each day (not in photo).

### Step 4: Daily Depositor

See T Guide, p. 21-22 and click on *samples 05* Photos and Questions 4 at [www.edconline.net](http://www.edconline.net)

(10 min. prep) Have ready for the first of September (or first of August depending on your school year. Put up the Depositor from the EDC Kit. Print copies of the 1 Inch Squared Paper (TR 3) from the back of the T Guide to post near the Depositor for recording each day's addition. Have students help cut apart the supply of play money bills from the EDC Kit and group them by denomination with rubber bands or keep them in library pockets, displaying one denomination of bills below each pocket of the Depositor.

Have *Post-its* handy to record the digit above each place value pocket naming the number of bills collected of that denomination.

### **Step 5: Calendar**

See T. Guide, p. 18-20 and click on *samples 05* Photos and Questions 4 at [www.edconline.net](http://www.edconline.net)

(25 minutes prep) No lamination needed. *Note:* If you begin school in August or are year round, you may want to use the August pieces for your first month of school. Otherwise, begin the 1<sup>st</sup> 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 out the three sheets of Calendar pieces for the month and display them on the Calendar from the 1<sup>st</sup> 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)

### **Step 6: Coin Counter**

See T. Guide, p. 26-27, and click on *samples 05* Photos and Questions 4 at [www.edconline.net](http://www.edconline.net)

(10 min. prep) Begin early in the school year to show different coin combinations equal in cents to the number of Day of School. Use three small clear pockets from the EDC Kit attached one above the other to the bulletin board. Place a copy of the 100 Penny Grid (TR 9) near the Coin Counter. Laminate, if possible, or place a piece of an overhead transparency over the recording space at the top. Place a supply of real coins (15 pennies 10 nickels, 10 dimes) in re-sealable baggie nearby.

### **Step 7: Graph Probability Experiment**

See T. Guide, p. 28-29, and click on *samples 05* Photos and Questions 4 at [www.edconline.net](http://www.edconline.net)

(10 min.) Copy, cut, and tape together grid paper (TR 3 or 19) to create a graph 2 spaces wide by 40 spaces long for recording the results of this draw and replace experiment. Find the 1 red square and 1 blue rectangle (without numbers) from the September Calendar Pieces in the EDC Kit. A lunch sack or bag or box can be used to hold the pieces.

### **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 October 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](http://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 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](mailto:edcwestj@aol.com) for Fall 2005 log-in.*