

A Dozen Duckling Lost and Found by Harriet Ziefert Houghton Mifflin, 2003

SYNOPSIS-

Mother Duck wants to show off her twelve newly hatched ducklings, so she parades them up the hill, across the road, and along the edge of the pasture. But when Mother Duck finally turns around, eight of her little ducklings are gone! She counts up, and she counts down, but no matter how she counts her missing ducklings are not there. –Houghton Mifflin, 2003

THEMES-

ducks, birds, farm, spring, Easter, mothers, counting

ABOUT THE AUTHOR-

www.houghtonmifflinbooks.com/catalog/

www.frontlist.com/booklist/4161

www.bookgarden.com/authors/Z-Ziefert.html

ACTIVITIES-

1. After reading *A Dozen Duckling Lost and Found*, encourage early math skills by singing the following song using manipulatives, such as plastic or felt ducklings, to help your students visualize the process of subtraction or taking away:

Twelve Little Feathered Ducks

-to the tune of "Five Green and Speckled Frogs"

Twelve little feathered ducks,
followed the mother duck,
with most splendid pride.
One fell into a hole with a tiny mole,
then there were eleven little feathered ducks!
Quack! Quack! (Continue the song taking away ducks each time just like the story.)

Extend this activity by asking your students to help you create new duckling songs to the tunes of other number songs, like *Ten Little Indians*, or *Five Little Monkeys Jumping on the Bed*.

2. With a partner ask your students to practice their addition or subtraction facts. Simply give them an egg carton that holds a dozen eggs. Write a number in each egg slot so you have numbers one through twelve. Place two game pawns in the carton and close it. Ask one student to shake the carton so the game pawns land in various spots. Then ask him/her to add the two numbers together or find the smaller number and subtract it from the larger number. Have the student's partner check the student's work. Then ask him/her to shake the carton and let his/her partner check the work.