

ACTIVITY 5.10

Skip-Count Patterns

As a full class activity, have students skip count by twos, threes, fours, and so on. After skip counting as a class, have students record a specific skip-count pattern on their own copy of the hundreds chart by coloring in each number they count. Every skip count produces an interesting pattern on the chart. You should also discuss the patterns in the numbers. For example, when you skip count by fours, you only land on numbers that you get when you count by twos. Which counts make column patterns, and which counts make diagonal patterns?

In the beginning, skip counting may be quite difficult for children. As they become more comfortable with skip counts, you can challenge students to skip count without the aid of the hundreds chart. Skip-counting skills show a readiness for multiplication combinations and also help children begin to look for interesting and useful patterns in numbers.

From Van de Walle, J. A. & Lovin, L.H. (2006). *Teaching Student-Centered Mathematics Grades K – 3*. Toronto: Pearson Education, Inc. (p. 138).