## Estimation Activity for Beginners

Fill a clear bowl/vase with about I-IO oranges, lemons, apples, or some other object large enough to fill it. Just use whatever you have in your house. Have loose leaf paper and markers on hand for guessing and recording.



- I. Tell your child "We are going to play a guessing game!"
- 2. "I put some \_\_\_\_ in this bowl, and you are going to guess, without counting, to find out how many there are!"
- 3. Tell your child to look at all sides, and the bottom, of the bowl/vase and make their best guess . . . without counting! Write this guess on the sheet of paper.
- 4. Next, take out a handful of the objects, not all, and let them count them out. Then ask questions about it.

For example, if I placed 6 apples in my bowl and my child guessed 2, I would take out about 3 apples and ask them to count them out. Then I would say, "So if this is 3 apples do you think there are more than 3 apples in my bowl?...(wait for response), less than 3?, or 3 apples altogether in my bowl? Do you think I have enough to share? Etc."

NO CRITICISM FOR WRONG ANSWERS . . . they are developing these understandings.

- 5. Put back all the apples and let them guess again. Write this guess on the sheet of paper.
- 6. Take them out, count them with your child, and write that number on the paper.

  Ask them to draw a recording/picture of how many there were altogether.