1 to 10 and Back Again: A Getty Museum Counting Book

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Pamela Patrusky, Designer
J. Paul Getty Museum (Aug 19, 1999)
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In this delightful preschool counting book, the extravagant Louis XIV is the lesson master that showcases the Getty Museum's fine collection of eighteenth century French furniture.

Children may learn as much about the diversity of furnishings as they do about counting. The styles of cabinets, desks, tables and cups are not what most American children find at home. Children will be fascinated to learn that what looks like the sofa at great-grandma's house is actually a bed, but not the kind that pulls out from under the cushions. The visual effect of the pages engages the child's eye with objects of varying sizes pasted onto a white background. For extra erudition, as well as fun, the editors include a few French vocabulary words along with the French versions of the numbers.

This is a companion to the Los Angeles museum's 1997 preschool alphabet book, A is for Artist, which showcased its collection of painted masterpieces. Both are excellent guides to introduce children to the beauty of art while practicing basic skills.

SHARON FLESHER (May / June 1999)

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