Estimation Station

Children estimate and count objects in a jar.

Materials
- shoe box
- box label
- student directions
- scissors
- glue
- hundred board (page 34)
- clear plastic jar with lid (such as a peanut butter jar)
- 100 bear counters, pasta shells, plastic soda bottle lids, or other items that can be used for counting (stored in a resealable bag)
- crayons

Shoe Box Setup

Make several copies of the hundred board. Fill a jar with up to 100 objects and secure the lid. Place the hundred boards, jar, and crayons in the shoe box. Glue the label to one end of the box and the student directions to the inside of the lid.

Tip
Cut the hundred board into ten rows. Have children arrange the rows in order to reassemble the board. For a greater challenge, cut each row in half to make number strips of five squares each. Then have students reassemble the board.

Directions

1. Guess how many objects are in the jar. Write that number at the top of the hundred board. Make an X in that number of squares.

2. Count the objects in the jar. Write that number at the top of the hundred board and circle it. Color that number of squares.

3. Check to see if your estimate was more than, less than, or the same as the number of objects in the jar.
Estimation Station

Name ___________________________    Date ________________________

How many objects?

My guess _____________  The actual number _____________

My estimate was:

more than _______  less than _______  the same as _______

the number of objects.

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To assemble the centers, photocopy each page on colored paper (or have children decorate), and cut out the title and directions along the lines as indicated. Glue the title to the outside of the box to create a label (on the end or side that will show when you stack and store the shoe boxes). Glue the directions to the inside of the lid. Assemble and prepare any other necessary materials (such as manipulatives and reproducible activity pages), and place these in the box. You may want to enlist parent volunteers to help with this process.