

Counting by Twos/Pairs

When it comes to application of content and relating what students are learning to their everyday life, this is done in many different ways. In the special education classroom, this becomes a special focus so that the students can make connections with what they already know so that it can help them to remember what they are learning better.

This first image is a passage taken directly from one of the strategic books used for our first grade math students. In the lesson that this was used had the students counting by twos and looking for items that came in pairs or had “partners”.

Ask students:

- *What comes in groups of two? (Possible responses include body parts such as hands, eyes, or arms. Students may also suggest wheels on a bicycle or wings on an airplane.)* ←

One of the items we used to help make connections to counting by twos and things coming in pairs was the students’ shoes. They were reminded that they wear a pair of something everyday. With a few more hints, the students were able to recall their shoes were considered “a pair of shoes!” The image below is what is kept in the classroom as a hint for pairs for the students. In talking about these items – shoes, arms, legs, feet, wheels on bicycle - hopefully the students will begin to see items in pairs throughout their daily lives.

