



Activity Ideas

Stuart J. Murphy
MathStart®

Henry the Fourth

Ordinals

Level 1 Ages 3+

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Identifying order is essential for developing sequencing skills.

It's "Dog Show Day" and the kids in the neighborhood have all gathered together to see four perfect pooches compete. Maxie's first, Baxter's second, Daisy's third, but will the stage-shy Henry the Fourth end up stealing the show? Illustrated by Scott Nash.

DC Standard 4.1, Number Concepts:

Children demonstrate a beginning understanding of number and operations and how they relate to one another.

- Ask the children to point to the dog highlighted in any of the math diagrams in the story. Talk about the position of that dog in relation to the other dogs. Ask questions such as, "How many dogs came before Baxter?" and "Where is Baxter in the line of dogs?"
- Have the children take turns telling you the story as you page through the book together. Point out the relationships between the numbers and the ordinals. For instance, Daisy is number three. She is the third dog in the show.
- Talk about things around the classroom or house and identify their order. "Which step is first going up the stairs? Which is second? Which is third?" Look at cars parked on the street and talk about their order. "Which is the second car from the corner?"
- Make a line of toy animals or cars. Pretend it's a parade. Ask the children to point to the second toy in line, then the fourth, the third, and the first. Turn them around. "Now which is first?"

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