

just number cards alone.

29. THIS MONTH HE CONQUERED VERY WELL THE PRINCIPALS OF ADDITION. By using the teaching aids to the Family Care class, he laid out addition problems using the plus & equal sign & counted out small number rods to match numbers, as well, to make simple addition problems. We followed along in the Lady-bird addition book. He also knows how to write simple addition problems in vertical position. He likes to do simple addition & subtraction in his workbooks since they do have pictures to go along with the problem.

30. WE'VE CONTINUED WORKING WITH THE NUMBER RODS & corresponding number cards, & he learned, for the first time, some simple exercises in subtraction, using the little coloured rods for a visual example.

31. WE WORK ALMOST EVERYDAY USING THE CLOCK & TELLING TIME. He knows now the purpose of the hour & the minute hand. We refer to The short hour hand, the "Little Boss" or "Squeeze", & the long minute hand, the one that moves much faster like he's always in a hurry, "Jerkie". We've been talking about five minutes before & past the hour, as well as half past the hour.

32. MOMMY MARIA HAD A GREAT IDEA! (See? She never gives herself enough credit!)-To arouse an interest in math by playing dice & counting games:



Plays dice game with Richard.

David enjoys playing "toss the die" with almost anyone, & moving little counters the same number of spaces on the board. Using 2 dice, he adds the 2 numbers & tries to keep up with the

big boys--usually wins too! Really! These games are easy to find in toy stores anywhere, very inexpensive, & also lightweight to carry with you.

33. SOMETIMES BEFORE BED, DAVID, ALF & I PLAYED A GAME OF "COUNTING OFF" from 1 to 50! David began with "1", I'd count "2", Alf "3", & we'd continue counting off, going faster & faster! David only missed a few times --he loved it!

34. [WRITING] DAVIDITO ENJOYS WRITING VERY SHORT LETTERS to the children or Family who have written to him. We have practiced almost daily in school time, writing the date on the chalkboard & copying it into his composition book. Davidito knows well how to write all of the lower case letters in the alphabet & most of the capitals, but we still have a few to practice to perfect in the capital letters. I draw the lines for him on his paper if needed, then usually show him where to start the letter & he will write what letters I dictate. He has a very nice, neat handwriting & sits with good posture.



Writes date & 1-10 using FC number rhymes from FC poster. (See FC-11b)

35. HE ENJOYS VERY MUCH USING THE CHALKBOARD & would oftentimes switch off in turn using chalkboard & paper.

He has also learned to write the numbers 1-10 recently. I never realized the specific steps needed in teaching how to write numbers & how to keep the child from getting them mixed up with letters. When Davidito makes a mistake in his writing or makes a sloppy mark, he erases it & does it over again. He also sort of jokes, rather embarrassed, that he made a mistake!

36. ONE WRITING GAME is when I ask, "what's the hardest letter for you to write in the whole alphabet?" David answers, "Ooo, the 'S'--I can hardly do it!" "Here, watch this, it's not that hard"...and by describing to one another where we have the difficulty, we usually learn all the letters we "thought" were too hard! (I don't know when I'll ever teach'm cursive writing--I had difficulty learning it myself!

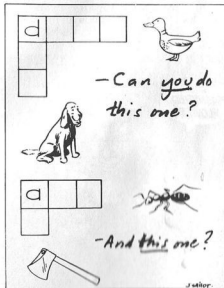


David reads a letter from a Family friend!

37. OUR OWN LITTLE MAIL MINISTRY IS WHAT USUALLY MOST INSPIRES HIS WRITING practice. He gets real charged to tell someone a message or verse or quote, but usually gets flustered at having to write the whole full page by himself! So I often have him dictate the main message, & I write it for him in light pencil on lined paper, with a base line, middle line & top line for the even spacing of his words.

38. THIS WAY HE FREELY DICTATES HIS

OWN WITNESSING MESSAGE, & enjoys much more copying the words I have written. He slowly advanced into writing "Dear...", the date, the first line & his signature, then eventually now can write a letter by himself, copying what I've written out in a notebook laid next to his writing paper. 39. [READING] THANK GOD HE'S ALREADY LEARNED TO READ BEFORE NOW, for he gleans most all of his science & geography lessons from reading books daily on those subjects, sometimes alone, but usually in taking turns with my reading along too. The Lady-bird "C" series of books on phonetics & phonograms (& all that stuff I never even understood myself & couldn't teach), have been real helpful now in his reading & understanding. Twice this month, David did very simple crossword puzzles!



40. [SCIENCE] I HAVE TRIED TO SCHEDULE A SCIENCE CLASS about every other day, in turn with geography in his 2-hour school time. One day we had a class from a book on safety tips about electricity. We also studied health foods one day, & he helped me cut out & paste pictures from a magazine onto a chart about all the necessary vitamins & minerals in the diet. We posted this in the kitchen.