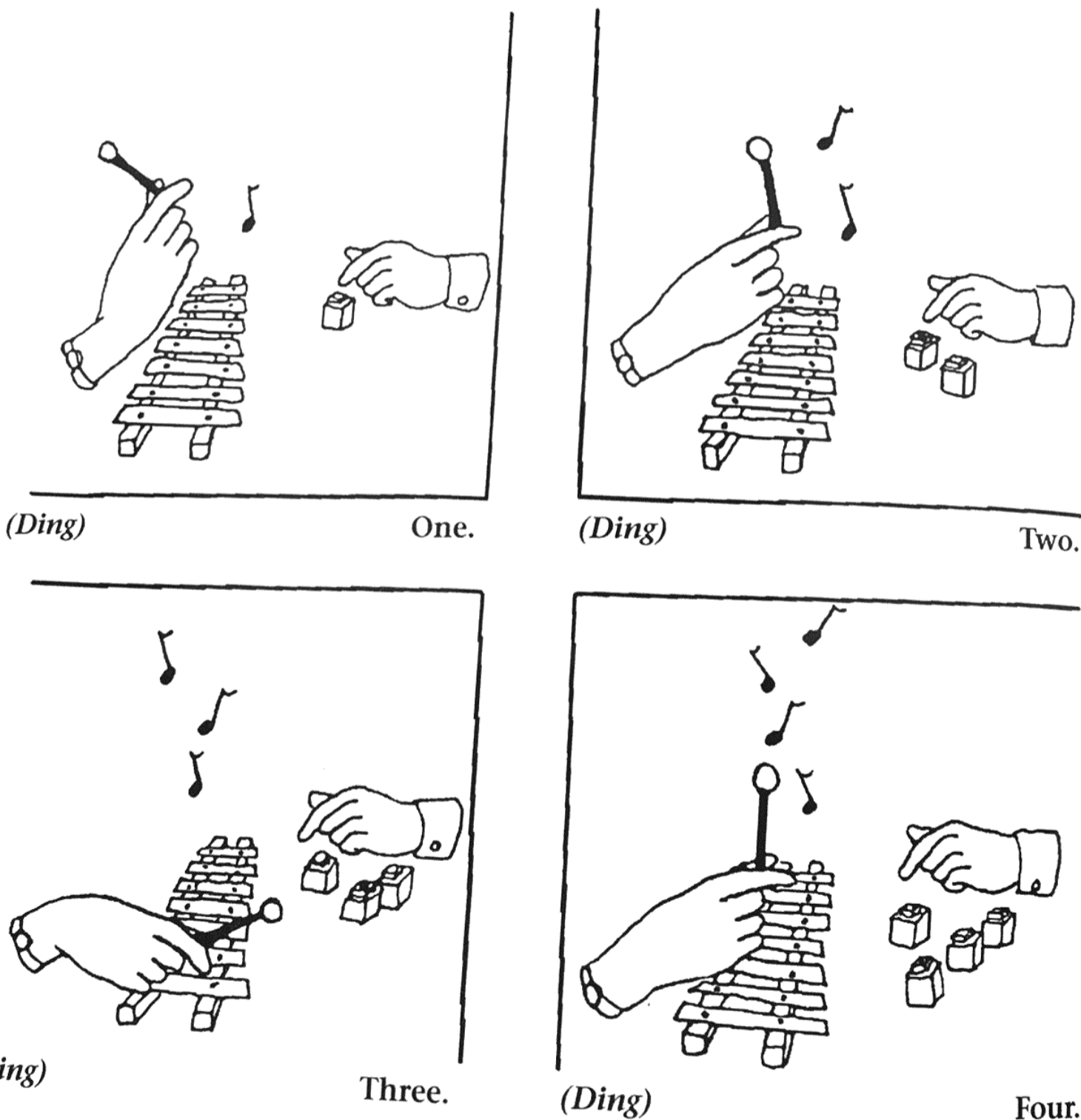


**Materials:** Counters • Xylophone or other rhythm instrument

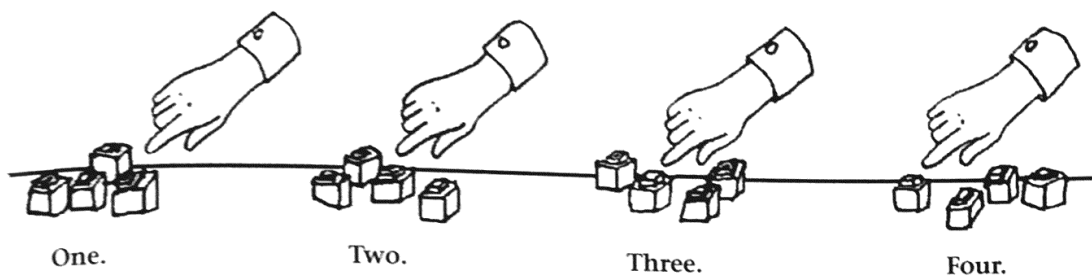
The children focus on one-to-one correspondence as you count with them, emphasizing the counting motion by playing a xylophone.

Have the children take counters from a pile and slide them toward themselves one at a time as they practice counting with you over and over again to a designated number. One group of children may need practice in counting to five; another may need practice in counting to nine. On each count strike one note on the xylophone. For example:

*We are going to practice counting to four.*

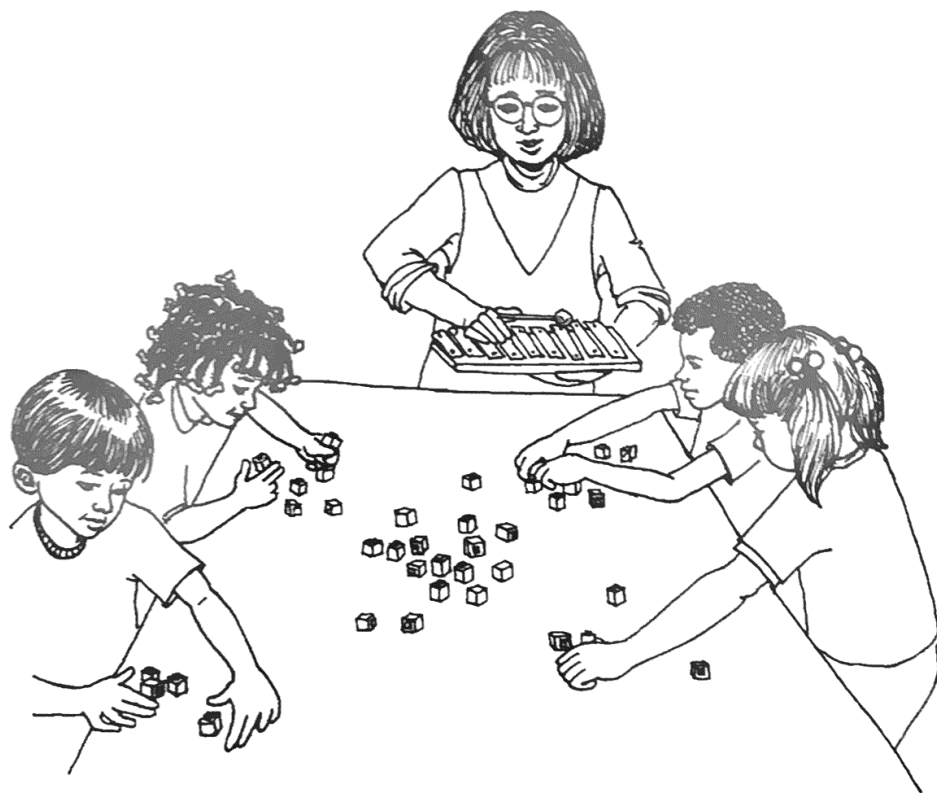


After the designated number is reached, say "Check," and have the children recount.



Run the stick across the xylophone as a signal to push the counters back into the pile.

Repeat the activity several times.



**Variation:** If no xylophone is available, just count with the children as they slide counters from the pile. Then say, "Push them back" as a signal for children to return the counters to the pile.