Children make and count groups of 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5. Lay a hoop or circle of rope on the floor. Ask 3 children to stand in the circle, and have children count how many children are in the circle. Repeat with groups of 1, 4, 2, and 5 children in the circle. Last, leave the circle empty and ask how many children are in the circle. Then have children look at the dot cards on the page, count the dots, and draw that number of objects in the box underneath.
Children use counters, drawings, and fingers to model 0, 1, and 2. Have children place counters in the space below each number to model 0, 1, and 2. Then have children remove the counters and draw dots in the space to show 0, 1, and 2. Point randomly to different cards and ask children to name the number and hold up fingers to show that number. Check that children do not draw dots or hold up fingers for 0.
Prepare for Numbers 0 to 5

Have children show the meaning of 4. Have children fill in each of the boxes to show the meaning of 4. Tell children that they can use words, numbers, and pictures. Encourage them to show as many ideas as they can.
Have children use drawings and fingers to model 3, 4, and 5. Have children draw dots in the space below each number to show 3, 4, and 5. Then point randomly to different cards and ask children to name the number and hold up fingers to show that number.
Have children describe the groups of objects they see in the picture. Ask how many children are sitting on each bench. Have them describe how many birds are in each nest and how many flowers are in each planter. Have them circle the empty planter, bench, and nest.

Discuss It

How can you describe how many objects are on an empty bench or in an empty pot?
Have children describe the pictures. Have children circle the planter with 4 flowers, the nest with 3 birds, the bench with 0 children, and the tree with 5 apples.

Discuss It: How do you know which picture has 0 objects on it or in it?
Ask children to find groups of 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5 as well as groups of 0 objects. Make sure children count each object in the group only once.

Have children color the planter with 0 flowers orange, the bench with 0 children brown, and the nest with 0 birds yellow.
Have children describe the pictures. Ask children to find and point to a group of 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5. Have children circle the planter with 2 worms, the bench with 1 child, the tree with 0 birds, and the planter with 3 flowers.
Have children identify and count out 0, 1, and 2. Give children a paper clip, a pencil, and 6 counters each. Explain that 0 means no counters. Children spin the spinner and put that many counters on the points of the star. Repeat until the star has 5 points covered.

Discuss It
Which numbers help you to fill the points of the star? Why?
Connect It

Have children trace and write the numeral 0, read the number aloud, and then find the picture that shows 0. Ask children to circle the picture that shows 0.

Discuss It
Look at each picture. How can you tell when a picture shows 0? What numbers do the other pictures show?
Have children practice writing the numeral 0 and then find a picture that shows 0. Ask children to trace and write the numeral 0 and then circle the picture that shows 0.
Have children practice writing the numerals 0, 2, and 5 and then find the picture that shows that number. Ask children to trace and write the numerals shown. Then have them circle the picture that shows that number.
Refine Numbers 0 to 5

Have children count a set of counters by moving one more each time. Give children 5 counters and have them place the counters in the blue box. Have children count how many are in the group by moving each counter across to the red box as it is counted.

Discuss It: How many counters start in the red box? What is happening to the group of counters in the red box as you count them?
Have children draw and count 2, 3, and 4 candles. Say: When Zoe turned 1, she had 1 candle on her cake. The next year, she turned 2. How many candles should she have on her cake? Have children draw and count the candles. Repeat for when Zoe turned 3 and 4.

Discuss It: Look at each birthday cake, starting with the first one. How can you describe how the number of candles changes each time?
Have children draw one more each time to match the counting numbers. Read the numbers 3, 4, 5 together. Have children draw that number of crackers on each plate. Then have children count and say how many are on each plate. Prompt children to recognize that they have drawn one more each time.
Have children color one more square each time to match the counting numbers. Read the numbers 1, 2, 3, 4 together. Have children color that number of squares in each frame. Then have children count and say how many are in each frame. Prompt children to recognize that they have colored one more each time.
Have children show 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5. Give each child 5 cubes. Have children show 1 in the frame labeled 1 by placing 1 cube. Have them slide the cube to the next frame and put on 1 more cube to show the next counting number. Repeat to 5.

Discuss It: How could you show 0 in the frame? How did you show the next counting number each time?
Have children draw objects to show numbers 0 to 5. Have children draw 2 apples in the tree, 0 fish in the fishbowl, 5 crackers on the plate, and 3 flowers in the flowerpot.

Discuss It: How do you know you have drawn the correct number of objects in each picture? How did you show 0 fish in the fishbowl?