Classify objects and count the number of objects in each category

Key Common Core Standards:
- Classify objects and count the number of objects in each category
- Identify and describe shapes such as squares, circles, triangles, rectangles, hexagons, cubes, cones, cylinders, and spheres
- Analyze, compare, create, and compose shapes

How you can help at home:
- Help your student look for and describe shapes in common objects
- Discuss what types of 2D shapes you can identify “inside of” 3D shapes
- Continue to review and practice counting numbers up to 10

What Came Before this Module: We counted numbers up to ten, including learning about one more than and one less than a number.

What Comes After this Module: We will continue work with numbers, using units of weight and measurement to talk about more and less than a number.

Words we will use in this module:
- Position words: above, below, beside, in front of, next to, behind
- Flat (two-dimensional shapes)
  - Circle
  - Hexagon (flat figure enclosed by six straight sides)
  - Rectangle (flat figure enclosed by four straight sides)
  - Square (flat figure enclosed by four straight, equal sides)
  - Triangle (flat figure enclosed by three straight sides)
- Face (flat side of a solid)
- Solid (three-dimensional shapes)
  - Cone
  - Cube
  - Cylinder
  - Sphere
The rekenrek is a kind of abacus that was developed in The Netherlands but has many variations in other world cultures. In *A Story of Units*, rekenreks are used in kindergarten first simply as a model of numbers 1-5. Later, the white and red beads can be used to illustrate numbers up to 10, and then 20.

There are a variety of skills that students can practice on the rekenrek, including simple counting, skip counting, and eventually beginning addition and subtraction concepts. In the early months of kindergarten, we use the rekenrek to practice fluency with counting up and down.

**Using the Rekenrek**

Students can easily see groups of 5, and can move the beads to show their counting and thinking as they put numbers together and take them apart (compose and decompose numbers).