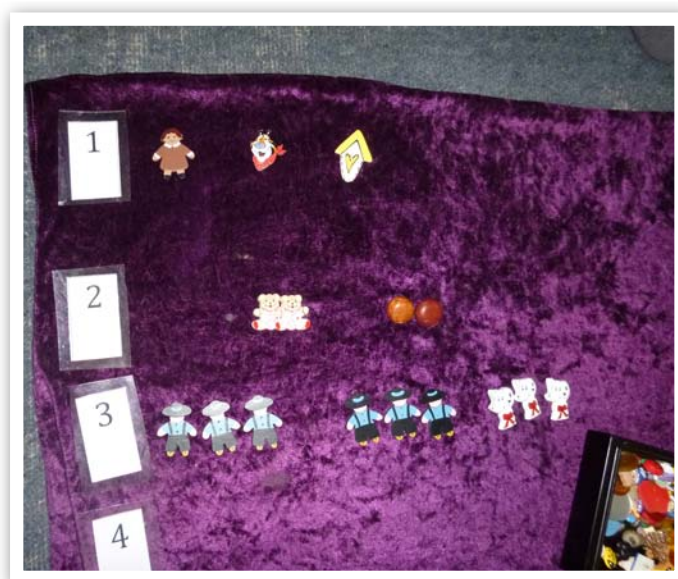


Selwyn Kindergarten Cathy 2012 June

"The mathematician's patterns, like the painter's or poet's, must be beautiful. The ideas, like the colors or the words, must fit together in a harmonious way.

Beauty is the first test: There is no permanent place in the world for ugly mathematics."-- G. H. Hardy



Clayton, you noticed I had brought my button collection from home. You looked at me and I thought maybe you wanted a turn. When I asked you said 'yes'

I gave you the numbers:

- 1
- 2
- 3
- 4
- 5

6 (we added this later as you needed it).

I thought that you would put one button alongside the number 1 and two buttons by the number 2 and so on.

What did I learn about Clayton today;

You surprised me. You were making sets of buttons depending on the number. Here you placed 2 round buttons, 2 teddy bears alongside the number 2.

I talked to your mother about your learning and teaching here today and she said you have had an interest in patterns at home where you have been playing 'connect four'

Today you planned your own learning at kindergarten and you also taught me!



I was reminded today that as a teacher, I cannot make assumptions of children and what they know. Clayton's knowledge of maths surprised me. The buttons were a vehicle for both Clayton and my learning. It is important that there are a variety of resources for children's learning and relationships with teachers and peers is a valuable part of this learning and teaching.