



Way Out in the Desert

by T.J. Marsh and Jennifer Ward

- **Things to get ready:**

1. If you don't have the numbers 1-10 already posted in your room, then make the numbers 1-10 to hang up in the classroom.
2. Photocopy the Way Out in the Desert sheets and gather crayons.

- **Getting the children ready to listen:**

Teach one, or both of these following counting rhymes to get in the mood for this clever story.

One Potato

One potato, two potato, (*count on fingers*)
Three potato, four,
Five potato, six potato,
Seven potato, more.
Eight potato, nine potato,
Here is ten.
Now let's count
All over again.

One, Two

One, two,
Sit up, please do. (*sit up tall*)
Three, four,
Feet on the floor. (*feet flat*)
Five, Six,
Stir and mix. (*stirring motion*)
Seven, eight,
Close the gate. (*clap hands once*)
Nine, ten,

Make a house for a hen. (form roof shape with fingers)

- **Read-Aloud Guide**

BEFORE you read the book:

1. Have the children name desert animals.
2. Count to ten and point to the numbers as you do. Tell the children to look for the numbers on each page as you read.

DURING reading:

1. Read each page and have children tell what kind of animal it was.
2. Have students count the number of babies each animal has.
3. Help students or have the students find the number on each page.

AFTER reading:

1. Have children count to 10 and then have them count backwards.
2. Start at the back of the book and ask how many babies each animal has. For example, “The mother rattlesnake has how many babies?”
3. Read the following poem below with the children.

Mother Goose

One, two Buckle my shoe,	Three, Four, Shut the door,	Five, Six, Pick up sticks,
Seven, Eight, Lay them straight,	Nine, Ten, A big fat hen.	

- **Extension Activity**

1. Have students draw in the correct amount of animals in each box. For example, 3 javenlinas.

- **Related Books**

Mouse Count
by Ellen Stoll Walsh

Ten, Nine, Eight
by Molly Bang

The Ants: Las Hormigas
by Jane Tenorio-Coscarelli

Moja Means One: Swahili Counting Book
by Muriel Feelings

The Right Number Of Elephants
by Jeff Sheppard