Tally marks: answers and notes

What your child practised: collecting data with tally marks in gates of five, counting tallies quickly and writing totals in a tally chart (Year 3 statistics).

Page 1 · Warm up

3 · 8 · 10

Page 2 · Try it together

Answers will vary. Check each total by counting the gates in fives, then the single lines. The totals should add up to the number of things.

Page 2 · A. How many?

4 · 5 · 9 · 11 · 15 · 18

Page 2 · B. Draw a tally

6 𝍸 |

10 𝍸 𝍸

14 𝍸 𝍸 ||||

Page 3 · C. Leo's tombola

Teal **7** · Yellow **6** · White **5**
Altogether **18** balls. Teal has the most.

Page 3 · D. Favourite rides

Swings **5** · Big wheel **7** · Teacups **3** (15 altogether)

Challenge: Sam is right. Mia drew six separate lines, which are hard to count quickly. The fifth line should cross the first four to make a gate, then one more line: 𝍸 | = **6**.

Watch out for

- **A sixth line instead of a gate.** Say "four lines standing, the fifth one lies across".
- **Counting a gate as one.** Point to the five lines inside a gate and count them together: a gate is always 5.
- **Losing your place** when tallying from a picture. Tick or cross out each thing as it is tallied.
- **Forgetting the totals.** A tally chart is finished when each row has its total written as a number.

Going further (5 minutes, no paper)

- **Air tallies:** clap a number and your child "draws" the tally in the air, sweeping across for each fifth.
- **Car spotting:** on a walk, count red cars in fives on your fingers: a closed hand is a gate.
- **In the game:** Chapter 2, Picture it! Pictograms, shows data with pictures and a key.