

Name and surname: _____

Grade: _____ Date _____

Learning to calculate with the abacus

session
15

calculation with the hands
units



1. Observe and learn

Observe the following images and learn how to represent the units with your hands. Note that the units are represented using only the right hand.

<p>Ⓐ</p> <p>0</p> 	<p>Ⓑ</p> <p>1</p> 	<p>Ⓒ</p> <p>2</p> 	<p>Ⓓ</p> <p>3</p> 	<p>Ⓔ</p> <p>4</p> 
<p>Ⓕ</p> <p>5</p> 	<p>Ⓖ</p> <p>6</p> 	<p>Ⓗ</p> <p>7</p> 	<p>Ⓘ</p> <p>8</p> 	<p>Ⓝ</p> <p>9</p> 

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2. Represent the numbers

Represent the following numbers using the right hand.

(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)	(E)
				
(F)	(G)	(H)	(I)	(J)
				

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1. Observe and learn











Information for the teacher

How to use the hands to do calculations?

Both hands are used to represent the abacus beads when doing operations. The right hand represents the unit's column and the left hand the tens column, both for left-handed and right-handed users. Now, only the units will be practised. When representing a number involving more than one finger, it is important to do it in a single movement.

Note: it might be necessary to explain the name of each finger to some students.

Fingers used to represent each number:

- (A)  • The n. 0 is represented with all the fingers down.
- (B)  • The n. 1 is represented by the index finger.
- (C)  • The n. 2 is represented by the index and middle finger.
- (D)  • The n. 3 is represented by the index, middle and ring finger.
- (E)  • The n. 4 is represented by the index, middle, ring and little finger.
- (F)  • The n. 5 is represented by the thumb. So the rest of fingers should be bent.
- (G)  • The n. 6 is represented by the thumb and the index.
- (H)  • The n. 7 is represented by the thumb, index and middle finger.
- (I)  • The n. 8 is represented by the thumb, index, middle and ring finger.
- (J)  • The n. 9 is represented by the thumb, index, middle, ring and little finger. That is, all the fingers of the right hand.