Book Title: Five Little Monkeys …
by E. Christlelow

Grade Levels: K and 1

Learning Outcomes:

Kindergarten
A4 Represent and describe numbers 2 to 10, concretely and pictorially.
Grade 1
A4 Represent and describe numbers to 20 concretely, pictorially and symbolically.

Materials:

- Monkey Finger Puppets
- Unifix Cubes
- Problem sheet
- Books: Five Little Monkeys Jumping on the Bed *and* Five Little Monkeys Sitting in a Tree by Eileen Christelow

Lesson Ideas:

1. Warm-up students with a game of 'Finger Flash'
   - children partner up
   - one child prepares his/her hands (behind back) with some fingers showing, for example 2 on one hand and 3 on the other
   - child flashes briefly his/her fingers to the partner – watch carefully for flashes that are a reasonably length of time rather than a blur.
   - the partner calls out the total "5" and then "2 plus 3 equals 5"
   - Note: During demonstration of the game, discuss other ways to create a sum of 5
   - Change roles
2. Have the 'helper' select the story and put 5 monkey puppets on his/her fingers.
3. Read aloud the story. As the story is being read, the 'helper' moves one monkey at a time to his/her other hand. Model the equation this creates $4 + 1 = 5$. As the story moves along, students can be encouraged to look for patterns in the numbers.
4. Repeat this activity with unifix cubes – give each child 2 sets of 5. They place 5 of one colour on their hands. As the story develops, they replace the monkey with a different colour. For example, one child might have 1 red and 4 blue. The equation would be $1 + 4 = 5$, but another child would have 2 red 1 blue and 2 red and this equation would be $2 + 1 + 2 = 5$. Take the time whilst reading the story to share the different ways the children are modeling the missing monkeys.
5. Model on the problem sheet – colouring in a way to make 5 and recording the equation that matches underneath it.
6. Children to explore this concept on their own sheets or with younger children, they could make 5 one way on their hands and then find a friend who has the same arrangement and later a different arrangement.
7. Debrief by having them share if they 'found' similar ways to make 5.
8. Extension: What would happen if you had 7 monkeys (or 20)? Children create their own challenges.