

Burly the Squirrel™

The Counting Game—Book 1



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A Note to Parents: How to Use Burly the Squirrel™


Burly the Squirrel™ was designed to be read together. Each counting page follows the same structure throughout all five books. The headline stays the same; only the number on the acorn changes.

As you read, simply read the headline in your own words. Then guide your child with two clear steps. First say, "Let's count up the left side of the path and collect the acorn." Allow your child to point and count each number as they move up the path. Then say, "Now let's count backwards down the right side and put it in Burly's basket." That steady pattern is the rhythm of the book.

Because the structure remains consistent from page to page and book to book, children know what to expect and can focus fully on the counting. Counting up builds number order and sequence. Counting back down reinforces those same numbers and strengthens confidence moving in both directions. Over time, this repetition supports memory and comfort with numbers.

Across the five-book series, the numbers increase gradually while the format stays the same. The seasons change from spring through the first snow of winter, but the counting pattern remains steady and familiar.

There's no pressure to rush. If your child hesitates, count together. If they're confident, let them lead. The goal is shared time and participation - not perfection. Burly is simply the reason to count. You and your child provide the experience.



Hello, my friends!
I'm Burly the Squirrel, and
I'm so happy you're here.

Do you know what season it is? That's right - summer is almost over! The forest is bright and green, and the first acorns are beginning to fall. All summer long I was playing. I ran through the meadow. I splashed in the stream. I even took naps in the sunshine. I had so much fun that I forgot to collect my acorns! Can you believe it? A squirrel who forgot his acorns!

Now the other squirrels have already started gathering theirs, and I'm a little behind. I need your help to catch up!

Together, we can count up and down the path and fill my basket before fall comes.

Each basket of acorns is enough to feed me for one whole month of winter. That means if we collect 16 acorns, I'll be safe and cozy when the cold weather arrives.

Are you ready to help me?

Let's count together and start gathering - beginning with acorn number 5!

Let's show Burly how to count up the left side of the path to get acorn 5 — then count backwards down the right side of the path and put it in his basket.



Let's show Burly how to count up the left side of the path to get acorn 6 — then count backwards down the right side of the path and put it in his basket.



Let's show Burly how to count up the left side of the path to get acorn 7 — then count backwards down the right side of the path and put it in his basket.

