



NSS™ Fast Facts

What is it?	A quick number sense screening tool that accurately identifies children at risk for mathematics difficulties
When is it done?	At least three times: in the fall of kindergarten, the spring of kindergarten, and the fall of first grade
Which areas are screened?	Counting skills, number recognition, number comparisons, nonverbal calculation, story problems, and number combinations
How many items are there?	There are 29 items. Here's a sample: "Kisha has 6 pennies. Peter takes away 4 of her pennies. How many pennies does Kisha have now?"
Who completes and scores it?	NSS can be easily completed and scored by a teacher, a learning specialist, or a school psychologist.
How long does it take?	About 15 minutes per child, and about 5 minutes to score
Which scores are provided?	6 subarea raw scores, total raw score, total standard score, total percentile rank
What do the scores tell us?	Subarea raw scores can be used to design appropriate interventions for children who struggle in a specific area. The total raw score, together with the percentile rank, can be used for overall screening and progress monitoring.
Is the tool valid and reliable?	Yes. NSS has internal consistency of .85 and predictive validity of .70 (end of third grade math achievement)