

Matching wings

Annotation

Katie recognizes equal groups. She begins at one and counts all of the spots to solve this multiplication problem. She is able to explain her thinking and her actions.

Problem: Matching wings

The teacher shows the student this picture and poses this problem:

How many spots are on the butterfly's wings?



Student response

Katie: There are 12 spots.

Katie touches each spot and counts from one to six for each wing. She then begins at one and counts to 12, touching each spot again as she does so.

Teacher: Tell me why you did it that way.

Katie: I saw the same spots on each wing. There are six there and six there (pointing). So that's 12 spots on the butterfly's wings. I touched each spot as I counted so I didn't miss one.