My Black Dots

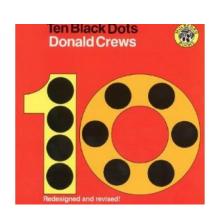
Here is a Writing extension for the Count-up book <u>Ten Black Dots</u> by Donald Crews. (You don't have to have this book to do this activity but almost every school or public library has it.)

Read the book aloud to your students. It offers many ideas on how black dots can be used to create part of an illustration. After reading it several times, brainstorm with your students (recording on chart paper) all of their ideas. You might have them close their eyes and visualize their bedroom or family room. One of our students said, "Oh, Micky Mouse uses 2 dots for his big ears!" (Look at the photographs of student work and a Class Book Cover for additional examples located on our Writing page.)

The book is NOT written with the sentence frame format we used for this writing extension. We chose this frame (My ____(number word) black dots can make______.) but you could select another sentence frame if you want. We have provided BOTH a blank template with handwriting lines AND two that have the sentence frame already printed on them. (One is singular and the other is plural) Ex. My 3 black dots can make an ant.

The BLANK one can be used in the following ways:

- *Create a different sentence frame before reproducing for your students Ex. I used my ___ dots to draw a _____.
- *The students write the complete sentence frame provided by you or use ours.
- *The students CREATE their own complete sentence to go with their illustration using both number and BLACK dot(s)





We used black sticky dots from the store (Office supply stores have many choices of sizes and colors)

We limited our students to no more than 5 dots because we found that TOO MANY dots caused the details of their pictures to be lost as they overlapped the dots.

Enjoy our writing activity! Jackie \$ Kylene

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