Comparing Sets Indirectly

Two sets that are not seen at the same time can be compared if they are each matched to a third set, without counting. When there is an extra chair for the people in one room and those same people go to another room with not enough chairs, do you have to count to compare the chairs in one room with the other? When both are more than the third set or when both are less than the third set, then it is more difficult but not impossible.

Expected content outcomes include helping children learn:

- to compare two sets that are not seen at the same time by matching each to a third set,
- to tell that one set is 1 or 2 more and that one set is 1 or 2 fewer just by matching to a third set, without counting or necessarily even knowing the number of each set,
- to accurately count a set of objects and tell how many, and
- to begin to recognize the symbols for the numbers.