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100 People by Masayuki Sebe

Publisher: Gecko Press

RRP \$19.99

The ultimate counting challenge for children is to count to one hundred. They will have plenty of practice with this intricate book filled with a variety of people.

The author/illustrator breaks the large number into manageable sections with fun activities. The double-spreads all display 100 people with an accompanying challenge to locate the ten faces that match those in a box alongside each different set. There are groups of 100 children, 100 pirates, 100 kings, 100 runners, 100 cave people, and several more types.

Question bubbles pepper the pages inviting readers to look closer and make new discoveries. For example: How many people are wearing yellow hats? How many mice can you find? Can you find the apple? Where's the cat? Is anyone holding a flower? Where is the strawberry?

A sense of continuity builds as some questions are repeated with each different set of people. Of course, there's the highest achievement: Can you count us all? There are 100 in total!

The slightly-larger than A4 size allows the detail to be seen without too much squinting. The characters are wild, wacky, colourful, humorous, and busily scampering all over the pages. It's a riot of controlled chaos that will fascinate anyone who is hooked on counting.

An excellent companion book to the author's *100 Things*, also published by Gecko Press.

Reviewed by children's author Jean Bennett

Author's website:
www.kaiseisha.net/author/masayuki_sebe.html

