

# BOOKRAPT™

THE BAY OF PLENTY CHILDREN'S LITERATURE ASSOCIATION INC  
www.bookrapt.org.nz info@bookrapt.org.nz



## ***The Hueys in None the Number by Oliver Jeffers***

**Publisher: HarperCollins**

**RRP \$29.99**

Award-winning author/illustrator, Oliver Jeffers has produced an entertaining view of the number 'none' or 'zero'. With this clever counting book Jeffers shows how important 'nothing' can be.

The text starts with one character asking another, "How many lumps of cheese do you see just there?"

"Um... I don't see any," is the reply.

"That's because there are none!"

The discussion continues with:

"Is none a number?"

"Of course. It's one less than one."

"I see. So one more than none is ... One?"

The characters continue to add 'one' until they reach the number ten.

The illustrations have a child-like sketchy style that is deceptive. There's a lot going on as each turn of the page reveals the amusing detail associated with the numbers. Bright spots of colour, plenty of white space, and large, bold text encourage young readers to look closely at each page.

The end page returns to the question "So is 'none' really a number?" It seems that even Ancient Greek philosophers worried about whether zero was a number - how can nothing be something? Is 'none' a positive or a negative? The answer is fascinating; read the book and find out for yourself.

This generous-sized, hardback publication introduces youngsters to the fun of counting and the fascination that can be discovered when exploring numbers.

**Reviewed by children's book author, Jean Bennett**

**Author's website:**

<http://www.oliverjeffers.com/>

