

# What do you think counts?

I'm counting how many licks to finish a lollipop,  
how many times a grown up says "no",  
how many marshmallows I can fit in my mouth,  
how many times I cry about homework,  
how many sticky notes I can put on Mum's face,  
how many monsters I have in my head.

I'm counting the days  
until I'm a famous tennis player,  
days since the war started,  
days until I see Daddy,  
until I have a friend.

I'm counting on my nain and taid  
because they give me hugs  
and say "sweets cost 1p  
back in the day".

And the friends  
I don't need to pretend to,  
that respect me,  
that play.

And my bunny, Binky,  
my axotl, Bob,  
because although they eat my homework,  
they always keep my secrets safe.

I'm counting on the people in power  
to protect the planet,  
on teachers  
so I can get a good job,  
money, a better life,  
and my football coach  
because  
**I WANT TO PLAY  
IN THE PREMIER LEAGUE.**

I'm counting cows on the way to school,  
raindrops in my mouth,  
memories of people I've lost.

I'm counting on someone  
to love me no matter what,  
to want the best for me,  
keep their promises,  
listen,  
and keep me safe,  
so I don't have to worry so much.

I'm counting on  
the small things -  
because they all add up.

**What do you think counts?**

Co-written by over 125,000 students  
and Laura Mucha ([www.lauramucha.com](http://www.lauramucha.com))  
on National Poetry Day as part of a  
**Guinness World Records™** title break with 43,516 young  
people for Largest Poetry Lesson (multiple venues).



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RECORD HOLDER

