**About the Story**

Baby is tied to Mama’s back in an outdoor African market. A seller gives Baby 6 bananas without Mama knowing. Baby eats 1 and puts 5 in the basket on Mama’s head. Other sellers give Baby food, too. Each time, Baby eats 1 piece of food and puts the rest in Mama’s basket. At the end, Mama is surprised to find so much food in her basket! She decides to go home and feed Baby, who, she thinks, must be very hungry.

**Math Talk During Reading**

**COUNT THE TREATS**
How many oranges did the seller give Baby? How many did Baby eat? How many oranges did Baby put in Mama’s basket?

**ADD ONE TO FIND THE TOTAL**
Mama has lots of things in her basket—five bananas and a yam. How many things are in Mama’s basket altogether?

**EXPLAIN WHAT HAPPENED**
The seller gave Baby 5 oranges. But there are only 4 oranges in Mama's basket. Why does she have only 4? What happened?

Try to come up with some of your own questions and comments, too!

**Activity After Reading**

**PLAY GROCERY STORE**
Give your child some play food (or real food) to “sell” to you. You “buy” 5 apples. Cover them. Take one away as your child watches. Ask, “How many are left under the cover?”

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**About the Math**

As Baby and Mama stroll through the market, your child can learn:

- To count the treats that Baby gets and the treats that end up in the basket.
- Taking away one treat reduces the total number of treats by one.
- The numbers of treats are in reverse order: 5, 4, 3, 2, 1.
- There are many beautiful patterns on the clothes people wear in the market.

**Words to Learn**

**MATH WORDS**
five, four, three, two, one

**OTHER WORDS**
market, curious, seller, crowded, grins, palm oil, chin-chin biscuits (a fried pastry, a little like a small donut), chili peppers

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