

Dear All,

I am continuing on the Mind Set topic. Last email was the introduction of the Mind Set. The key concept is beyond Infinity. The process of discovering this concept will expand the mind, our thinking mode.

### **How do we open our mind?**

The number method is simple, but is profound. It is simple because number is the universal language. It is profound because Mahayana sutras used large number system to open one's mind. The counting number teaching is illustrated in Avatamsaka sutra, chapter 30 of Scroll # 45.

However, to be able to understand and appreciate this profound teaching, there are prerequisite modules, which are mini-steps preparing our minds in a profound way.

Let us begin our discovery process.

### *How do our minds open?*

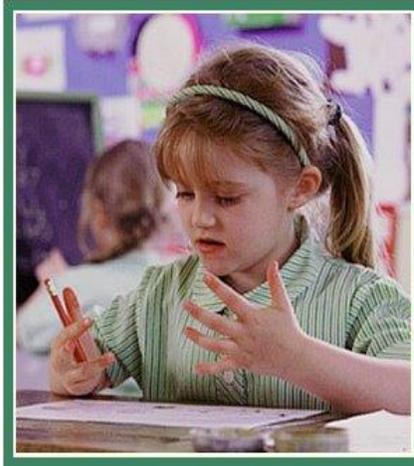
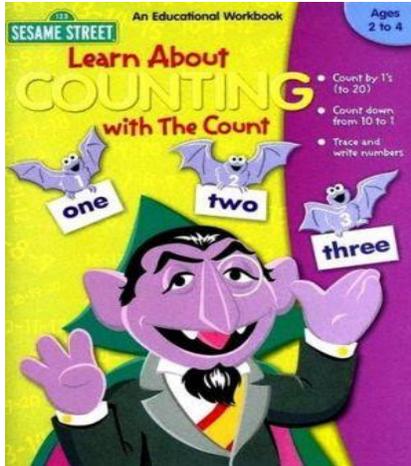
**Childhood development module** is the first prerequisite mini-step.



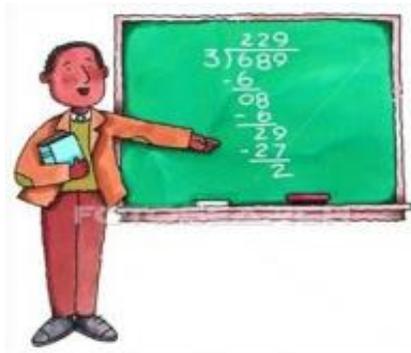
**Baby has no concept of numbers.**



**Toddler begins to learn concepts through playing.**



Early childhood mathematical education is.....Sesame Street (counting fingers).



Grade school mathematic consolidating quantitative concept is based on pure numbers.



Complex mathematics.

**Childhood development module** is best to illustrate the maturation process of intellectual development. The module explains how the formation of numerical concept parallels the intellectual maturation. These pictures illustrate the maturation process from baby to adult.

A new born mind is like a blank sheet,. The baby has to learn by collecting knowledge and he/she has to learn how to think. It is a pure learning process without judgement.

Learning process becomes more intense. The material becomes more complex. Thinking begins and becomes more elaborate, from observation, simple numbers, and mathematical calculation to abstract formulation.

*That is how our minds open.*

We realized several important points:

- Numbers are just numbers, no matter how simple or how complicated.
- The development of intelligence involves conceptual maturation from qualitative to semi-quantitative to quantitative.
- Quantification is merely a sophisticated process of analysing/dissecting a qualitative abstract concept into its finite components by means of relative degree or scale. We can measure volumes of air or gases. Well we can measure our happiness by quantifying it using a happiness index scale. By giving happiness a relative unit, we can measure immeasurable qualitative abstract concepts.
- Although most of us are not interested in comprehending complex mathematics, we would concur that such complicated mathematics are valid and comprehensible if we choose to learn it.

The number concept will not only open our mind and but also help us transcend duality. It is such a simple scientific method, but it is very profound teaching.

It is very difficult to share this knowledge/concept through email. However, if just one of you appreciates the information, I will try my best to share it.

Please recite Avatamsaka sutra, chapter 30 of Scroll # 45 before we begin. If you fail to first read the sutra before I begin, you would do a great loss to your dharma life.

See you next time with **boundless, countless, uncountable, unspeakable, immeasurable and untold numbers.**