



Stuart J. Murphy's  
**MathStart**<sup>®</sup>

**Henry the Fourth**  
Level I / Ages 3+  
Ordinals



## Identifying order is essential for developing sequencing skills.

### Story Description

It's "Dog Show Day" and the kids in the neighborhood have all gathered together to see four perfect pooches compete. Maxie's first, Baxter's second, Daisy's third, but will the stage-shy Henry the Fourth end up stealing the show? Identifying order is essential for developing sequencing skills.

Illustrated by Scott Nash.

### DC Standard 4.1, Number Concepts:

Children demonstrate a beginning understanding of number and operations and how they relate to one another.

### Activities

- Ask your child (or students) to point to the dog highlighted in any of the math diagrams in the story. Talk about the position of that dog in relation to the other dogs. Ask questions such as, "How many dogs came before Baxter?" and "Where is Baxter in the line of dogs?"
- Have the children take turns telling you the story as you page through the book together. Point out the relationships between the numbers and the ordinals. For instance, Daisy is number three. She is the third dog in the show.
- Talk about things around the classroom or house and identify their order. "Which step is first going up the stairs? Which is second? Which is third?" Look at cars parked on the street and talk about their order. "Which is the second car from the corner?"
- Teacher Idea:** My kindergartners read "Henry the Fourth" and were so inspired that later that day they wrote their own book filled with pets who could do funny tricks! They ordered them 1st through 21st and now love reading each other's pages. We have a horse that can button and unbutton buttons, a raccoon that can do karate, and a dragon that can blow acid!

—Kate Jamieson, Beauvoir School, Washington, DC



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