Number Rods and Cards

**Prior Knowledge:**
- Child should have prior knowledge of the following before introducing this work:
  - Red and Blue Number Rods
  - Sandpaper Numbers

**Materials:**
- Red and Blue Number Rods with Numerals.

**Instructions:**

1. Invite a child to the lesson after they have the prior knowledge as listed above.
2. Model the lesson for the child. Show enthusiasm for the work. Many times a child’s motivation for the work (whether it is boring or interesting) depends upon how it was modeled for them by the adult.
3. Take the rods out of the box and lay them gently on the side of the workspace. Take the number cards out of the box and lay them on the side of the workspace.
4. Take the number rods and lay them in the middle of the workspace, in a straight line, but in scrambled order.
5. Pick up a number card and say the number. Find the rod that matches the number card and place the number card underneath the correct rod. Match the other number cards with their respective rods.

**Other variation:**

1. Take the rods out of the box and lay them gently on the side of the workspace. Take the number cards out of the box and lay them on the side of the workspace.
2. Take the number cards and lay them in the middle of the workspace, in a straight line, but in scrambled order. Say the number names as you lay out the cards on the workspace.
3. Pick up a number rod and say the number. Find the card that matches the number rod and place the number rod above the correct card. Match the other number cards with their respective rods.
Advanced Variation:

1. Take the rods out of the box. Place the 1-9 rods along the top of the workspace.
2. Place the 10 rod over to the right of the workspace, but in the center.
3. Say to the child, “Let’s make groups of 10.” Proceed to pick up the 9 rod and place it beside the 10 rod. Say aloud, “What other rod would make this 10?” Repeat this with the other rods.
4. For more advanced work, you can even start saying aloud, “9 + 1 equals 10…, etc.” and utilize the ‘+’ and ‘=’ cards.