Keep My Guess

GUESS / GROUP / CHECK

Hippo has a guess. Keep it while the seeds are grouped and checked.



1 THE MAT

Beneath the baobab's shady tree,
Hippo lays his seeds to see.
"I guess thirty!" Hear him say.
His first small mark is here to stay.

2 TEN AND TEN

Ten seeds settle in a row.
Ten more join them, nice and slow.
Twenty resting, eight still free--
Every seed is there to see.

3 COUNT THE REST

Touch each loose one, one by one.
Eight more counted. Now we're done.
Twenty-eight is what we found;
Thirty stays beside that amount.

4 SAME SEEDS

Spread them wide across the mat.
Push them close--imagine that!
None came in and none went out.
Same seeds, same whole amount.

5 KEEP AND CHECK

Keep the guess and check what's true.
Let the seeds give us a clue.
If our count needs one more try,
We'll check again, our friends and I.

Closing couplet: Tap ten, then ten, then eight in place.
Two marks can share one little space.

ORI'S THOUGHT

Moving the same seeds changes their places, not how many there are.

Ori says

Guess. Group. Discover.

HOMEPAGE