Counting to 20
Lay 10 scoops out in a line. Starting at one end, count out loud, touching each scoop as you say the number. Add 1 scoop to the line and have kids count again, touching each scoop as they count. Continue adding scoops and counting until you reach 20.

Count and Compare
Lay 3 scoops out in a vertical line. Lay 6 scoops out in a line right next to it (make sure both lines start at the same place). Starting at the bottom, count the scoops in the first line, touching each scoop as you count. Now, count the scoops in the second line. Ask, “Which is more? Which is less?” This is a great way to start introducing concepts of greater than and less than. Repeat this activity several times with different numbers. Next, make two lines with the same number of scoops in each line. Explain that these are equal, or the same.

Super Scoop Hunt (for 1 to 4 players)
Time to get up and move! A parent or older child hides 10 scoops (or more, depending on the number of players) around the room. Each player takes a cone. Players start at the same place: ready, set, go! Players scramble to find as many scoops as they can and stack them on their cones. Careful, don’t let the scoops fall, or you’ll need to restack them! When all the scoops are found, players count their scoops. The player with the most scoops wins!
What’s Missing?
Test your memory skills with this quick and easy game. Lay 5 scoops out in a line. Have kids turn away and remove one of the scoops. Now, have kids turn back and guess which scoop is missing! Start with a simple grouping, such as 4 blue scoops and 1 red. Continue playing, but increase the difficulty every few rounds by adding more colors and more scoops.

Quick Count
Draw a large square, about 5” x 5”, on a piece of paper. Set scoops up in different configurations inside the square and ask kids to quickly tell you the number of scoops they see. Arrange the scoops like dots on a dice (three in a diagonal row; two columns of three). The ability to quickly tell the number of objects in a set is called subitizing, and it helps build mental math skills.

Color Match (1 or more players)
Put all the ice cream scoops into the ice cream container. The first player spins the spinner. Without looking, they take one ice cream scoop out of the container. If it matches the color spun, they keep that scoop. If it doesn’t, they put it back in the container. Now it’s the next player’s turn. If you spin the rainbow, you can keep a scoop of any color. The first player to collect 5 scoops wins!