Acknowledgments page ix

Introduction 1

1 Numbers and objects 9
   Cardinal number assignments: '3 pens', '3 kg', '3 "C" 18
   Ordinal number assignments: 'the third runner' 33
   Nominal number assignments: 'bus #3', 'football player #3' 37
   Overview: how to use numbers 40

2 What does it mean to be a number? 43
   The intersective analysis of numbers 44
   The itemising approach to numbers 52
   The relational view of numbers 57
   A criteria-based view of numbers 60

3 Can words be numbers? 68
   Counting words are special 70
   Counting words are non-referential 79
   Counting words are acquired differently 85
   A cut with Occam's razor 89
   Counting words as numerical tools 91

4 The language legacy 94
   Before language: quantitative capacities in infants and animals 95
   Number sense and beyond 108
   Symbolic reference and the evolution of language 113
   Matching patterns in symbolic reference and number assignments 121
   Language opens the way for numerical cognition: further support 124
   A possible scenario for the emergence of numerical tools 131
   Language and number as human faculties 143
5 Children's route to number: from iconic representations to numerical thinking
   The acquisition of a counting sequence
   Pre-numerical props for number assignments
   Gateway to number
   Language and the emergence of counting and cardinality  

6 The organisation of our cognitive number domain
   Representation of counting words as numerical tools
   Concepts of numerical quantity
   Abstract cardinalities
   Measure concepts
   Concepts of numerical rank
   Concepts of numerical label
   The architecture of the number domain  

7 Non-verbal number systems
   Arabic numerals as a non-verbal number sequence
   The development of non-verbal numerals: from iconic representations to numerical tools
   Two alternative number sequences: the correlation between counting words and arabic numerals  

8 Numbers in language: the grammatical integration of numerical tools
   Counting words and their referential cousins
   How to express numerical concepts: the organisation of number word constructions
   Referential number words are not outcasts
   The return of the counting words  

Appendix 1 Number assignments
Appendix 2 The philosophical background
Appendix 3 Numerical tools: possible sets N
Appendix 4 Conceptualisation of number assignments
Appendix 5 Semantic representations for number word constructions

References
Index