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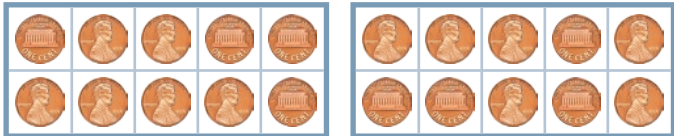
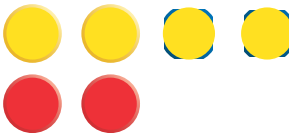
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About the Mathematics in This Unit

Dear Family,

Our class is starting a new unit in mathematics called *How Many Now?* The focus of this unit is on combinations, counting, and addition and subtraction. Students record different ways a set of two-color counters can land, figure out how many blue and red crayons could be in a set of five crayons, and play a card game in which they look for combinations of cards that total six. All of these activities focus on the idea that one number can be broken apart in many ways: 6 is 3 and 3 or 5 and 1 or 2 and 2 and 2. Students also count sets of up to 20 objects, and continue making sense of addition and subtraction through story problems and games that ask them to combine or separate small amounts.

Throughout this unit, students will be working toward these goals:

Benchmarks/Goals	Examples				
Count and count out a set of up to 20 objects.	How many pennies are there?  Can you make a tower with 20 cubes?				
Write the numbers to 10.	How many are red? How many are yellow?  <table><tr><th>Red</th><th>Yellow</th></tr><tr><td>2</td><td>4</td></tr></table>	Red	Yellow	2	4
Red	Yellow				
2	4				

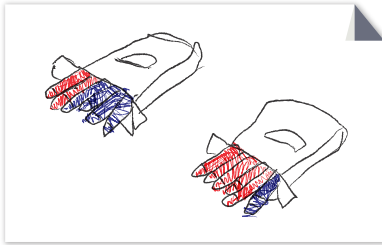


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About the Mathematics in This Unit

Benchmarks/Goals	Examples
Represent and solve addition problems within 10.	How many counters should Mia take?  $\underline{3} + \underline{4} = 7$ Jack had 6 blocks. Carmen gave him 2 more. How many blocks did Jack have then? 
Decompose a number into two addends in more than one way.	I have 6 crayons in all. Some are red and some are blue. How many of each could I have? How many blues? How many reds?  4 blue 2 red 1 blue 5 red

In our math class, students engage in math problems and activities and discuss the underlying concepts. They are asked to share their reasoning and solutions. It is important that children solve math problems accurately in ways that make sense to them. At home, encourage your child to explain his or her math thinking to you.

In the coming weeks, you will receive information about activities to do at home.