

FAMILY MATH

Make Easier Problems to Add

Dear Family,

Your student continues to practice the make ten strategy to solve addition problems. Previously, they added three addends to make ten by grouping numbers in any order. Now they are adding two and three addends when none make ten initially. Instead, your student thinks about partners to 10 with one addend, and then breaks apart the other addend to make ten. This work prepares your student to find larger sums later in the year.

Make ten with 2 addends

$8 + 6 = 14$  $10 + 4 = 14$ 	$8 + 6 = 14$  $10 + 4 = 14$	$8 + 6 = 14$  $8 + 2 + 4$ $10 + 4 = 14$
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8's partner to ten is 2. The addend 6 can be broken apart into 2 and 4. 8 and 2 are combined to make 10. Now, the problem becomes $10 + 4$, making it easier to solve.

Make ten with 3 addends

$$2 + 7 + 5 = 14$$


$$4 + 10 = 14$$

7 can be broken apart into 2 and 5. $5 + 5 = 10$ and $2 + 2 = 4$. Add 10 and 4 to get 14.

At-Home Activities

Group Ten

Gather 11 to 16 small items such as pennies, blocks, or buttons. Arrange them into two groups with totals under ten, such as 9 and 4. Encourage your student to find the total by first making ten by using the example statements and question.

- “There are 9 blocks in this group and 4 blocks in the other group. Move the blocks around so there are 10 in one group. How many blocks are there in total?”

Try it again with a different total and a different number for the starting groups, such as 7 and 6. With the same 11 to 16 items, consider modifying the game by making three groups. Be sure to continue saying aloud the combinations to 10 as well as totals for support.

Add to Ten

Help your student play an addition to ten game with your hands. Using your fingers, show two numbers, one on each hand. Invite your student to show how many more are needed to make 10 using their fingers. Take turns initiating the beginning numbers as described in these examples.

- You show 5 fingers on one hand and 2 on the other. Your student will show 3 to make 10.
- Your student shows 4 fingers on one hand and 2 fingers on the other. You show 4 to make 10.
- You show 2 fingers on one hand and 1 finger on the other. Your student uses both hands and shows any combination of 7 fingers.