

make a ten strategy math

make a ten strategy math is a fundamental approach used in early mathematics education to help students build a strong number sense and improve their addition and subtraction skills. This strategy revolves around the concept of decomposing numbers to make sums of ten, which simplifies mental calculations and enhances numerical fluency. Understanding and applying the make a ten strategy math approach allows learners to perform complex arithmetic operations more efficiently by breaking down problems into manageable parts. This article explores the principles behind the make a ten strategy math, its practical applications, benefits in classroom settings, and effective techniques for teaching this concept. Additionally, the discussion includes examples and tips for parents and educators to reinforce the strategy in everyday math learning.

- Understanding the Make a Ten Strategy in Math
- Benefits of Using the Make a Ten Strategy
- How to Teach the Make a Ten Strategy
- Practical Applications and Examples
- Common Challenges and Solutions

Understanding the Make a Ten Strategy in Math

The make a ten strategy math involves transforming addition problems to create sums that equal ten before adding the remaining numbers. This method leverages the base-ten number system, which is foundational in mathematics, making calculations more intuitive and less error-prone. Essentially, when adding two numbers, if one can be split to complete a ten with part of the other number, the addition becomes easier.

Conceptual Basis of Make a Ten

The core idea behind the make a ten strategy is to use ten as a benchmark number because it is the base of our number system. When numbers are combined to form ten, subsequent additions become simpler. For example, when adding $8 + 5$, a student can break down the 5 into 2 and 3. Adding $8 + 2$ makes 10, and then adding the remaining 3 results in 13.

Relation to Number Sense Development

Developing number sense is critical for mathematical proficiency, and make a ten strategy math supports this by encouraging flexible thinking about numbers. It helps students see numbers as composed of parts, facilitating mental math and understanding of place value. This strategy also lays the groundwork for more advanced arithmetic skills, including subtraction, multiplication, and division.

Benefits of Using the Make a Ten Strategy

Utilizing the make a ten strategy math offers numerous advantages for learners, especially in early education. This technique improves calculation speed, accuracy, and confidence by simplifying addition and subtraction tasks. It also fosters a deeper comprehension of numbers and arithmetic operations.

Enhances Mental Math Skills

By mastering the make a ten strategy, students acquire a powerful tool for performing quick mental calculations without relying on counting fingers or calculators. This enhances their ability to solve problems efficiently in both academic and real-world contexts.

Supports Mathematical Fluency

Fluency in mathematics involves the ability to solve problems accurately and quickly. The make a ten strategy math contributes to fluency by enabling students to recognize number combinations that sum to ten swiftly, thereby reducing cognitive load during calculations.

Builds Confidence and Reduces Math Anxiety

When students have effective strategies like make a ten, they approach math tasks with greater confidence. This reduces anxiety and resistance to learning math, leading to improved engagement and performance in the subject.

How to Teach the Make a Ten Strategy

Effective instruction of the make a ten strategy math requires clear explanations, hands-on activities, and plenty of practice opportunities. Teachers and parents can use various techniques to help children internalize this strategy.

Use of Visual Aids and Manipulatives

Visual aids such as ten frames, number bonds, and counters provide concrete representations of numbers and their relationships. Manipulatives allow students to physically group objects to make ten, reinforcing the concept through tactile learning.

Step-by-Step Guided Practice

Breaking down problems into smaller steps helps students understand the process of making ten. For example, guiding students through decomposing one addend to complete ten before adding the remainder promotes clarity and retention.

Incorporating Games and Interactive Activities

Games that involve finding pairs of numbers summing to ten or rapid-fire addition challenges make learning engaging and encourage repeated practice. Interactive approaches maintain student interest and facilitate mastery of the strategy.

Practical Applications and Examples

The make a ten strategy math is applicable in various arithmetic scenarios, particularly in addition and subtraction. Real-world examples and classroom exercises illustrate how this method can be applied effectively.

Simple Addition Examples

Consider the problem $7 + 6$. Using make a ten, break down 6 into 3 and 3. Add $7 + 3$ to make 10, then add the remaining 3 to get 13. This approach simplifies the addition process, making it easier to solve mentally.

Subtraction Using Make a Ten

Although primarily used for addition, the make a ten strategy can assist in subtraction by helping students understand the relationship between numbers. For instance, to solve $13 - 6$, students can think of 13 as $10 + 3$ and subtract 6 in parts, first subtracting 3 to reach 10, then subtracting the remaining 3 to get 7.

Application in Word Problems

Word problems involving sums or differences near ten benefit from this strategy. Teaching students to identify opportunities to make ten within the problem enhances comprehension and problem-solving skills.

Common Challenges and Solutions

While the make a ten strategy math is effective, some learners may face difficulties grasping or applying it. Identifying common challenges and implementing targeted solutions ensures successful learning outcomes.

Difficulty in Number Decomposition

Some students struggle to break numbers into parts that sum to ten. Using visual aids and repeated practice with manipulatives can help overcome this obstacle by making abstract concepts concrete.

Overreliance on Counting

Students may initially depend on counting fingers or objects, which slows down problem-solving. Encouraging mental visualization and gradual reduction of physical aids promotes independence and fluency.

Lack of Practice and Reinforcement

Without consistent practice, retention of the make a ten strategy diminishes. Incorporating the strategy regularly in lessons and homework, as well as using games and interactive activities, reinforces learning and builds mastery.

- Use manipulatives like counters and ten frames for hands-on learning
- Practice decomposing numbers to form ten through guided exercises
- Apply the strategy in various problem types, including word problems
- Encourage mental math to reduce dependence on physical counting
- Provide consistent opportunities for practice and review

Frequently Asked Questions

What is the 'make a ten' strategy in math?

The 'make a ten' strategy is a mental math technique where numbers are rearranged or grouped to make a sum of ten first, making addition easier and faster.

How does the 'make a ten' strategy help in addition?

It simplifies addition by creating a base of ten, allowing students to add remaining numbers more easily, improving accuracy and speed.

Can the 'make a ten' strategy be used with subtraction?

Yes, it can be adapted for subtraction by breaking numbers into parts that relate to ten, making it easier to subtract mentally.

What age group is the 'make a ten' strategy best suited for?

It is typically introduced in early elementary grades, around 1st to 3rd grade, to build a strong foundation in number sense.

Can you give an example of the 'make a ten' strategy?

For example, to add $8 + 5$, you can break 5 into 2 and 3, add $8 + 2$ to make 10, then add the remaining 3 to get 13.

Why is the 'make a ten' strategy important for developing number sense?

It helps students understand the relationships between numbers and enhances their ability to perform mental calculations efficiently.

How can teachers encourage students to use the 'make a ten' strategy?

Teachers can use hands-on activities, visual aids like ten frames, and practice problems that encourage breaking numbers to make ten.

Are there digital tools or apps that support learning the 'make a ten' strategy?

Yes, many educational apps and online games focus on number bonds and making ten to help students practice this strategy interactively.

Additional Resources

1. *Making Ten: Strategies for Early Math Success*

This book introduces young learners to the foundational "make a ten" strategy in addition and subtraction. Through engaging visuals and practical exercises, it helps children understand how to break numbers apart and recombine them to simplify calculations. It's perfect for educators and parents aiming to build strong number sense in early math learners.

2. *Mastering the Make Ten Strategy: A Guide for Teachers*

Designed for educators, this guide provides comprehensive lesson plans and activities centered around the make ten strategy. It covers various methods to teach students how to group numbers efficiently to reach sums of ten, which enhances mental math skills. The book also includes assessment tools to track student progress.

3. *Make Ten Magic: Fun Math Games for Kids*

This book offers a collection of interactive and enjoyable games that reinforce the make ten strategy. By incorporating play into learning, children can practice number bonds to ten in a stress-free environment. The games are suitable for classroom settings or home practice, making math both fun and effective.

4. *Building Number Sense with Make Ten*

Focused on developing a deeper understanding of numbers, this resource explores how using the make ten strategy strengthens overall math fluency. It provides step-by-step instructions and examples that demonstrate breaking down complex problems into simpler parts. Teachers will find it useful for differentiated instruction.

5. *Make Ten and Beyond: Extending Math Strategies*

This book extends the make ten concept to more advanced math topics such as two-digit addition and subtraction. It shows how the initial strategy can be a stepping stone for tackling larger numbers and more complex operations. Ideal for upper elementary students ready to advance their problem-solving skills.

6. *Number Bonds and the Make Ten Strategy*

Exploring the relationship between number bonds and making ten, this book highlights how understanding these connections aids mental calculation. It includes visual models, practice

sheets, and tips for helping students internalize number relationships. The resource supports foundational math curricula effectively.

7. Hands-On Math: Using Manipulatives to Make Ten

This practical guide emphasizes the use of physical tools like counters, cubes, and beads to teach the make ten strategy. By engaging multiple senses, students can better grasp abstract concepts through concrete experiences. The book provides activity ideas and advice for classroom implementation.

8. Make Ten Strategies for Special Learners

Tailored to meet diverse learning needs, this book offers specialized approaches to teaching the make ten strategy to students with learning differences. It includes modified activities, visual supports, and pacing suggestions to ensure all learners can succeed. Educators will find valuable insights on differentiation and inclusion.

9. Early Math Foundations: The Power of Make Ten

This title focuses on the importance of the make ten strategy in building a solid early math foundation. It discusses cognitive development theories and how mastering this skill supports future math achievement. The book is suitable for parents, teachers, and curriculum developers looking to strengthen early numeracy.

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