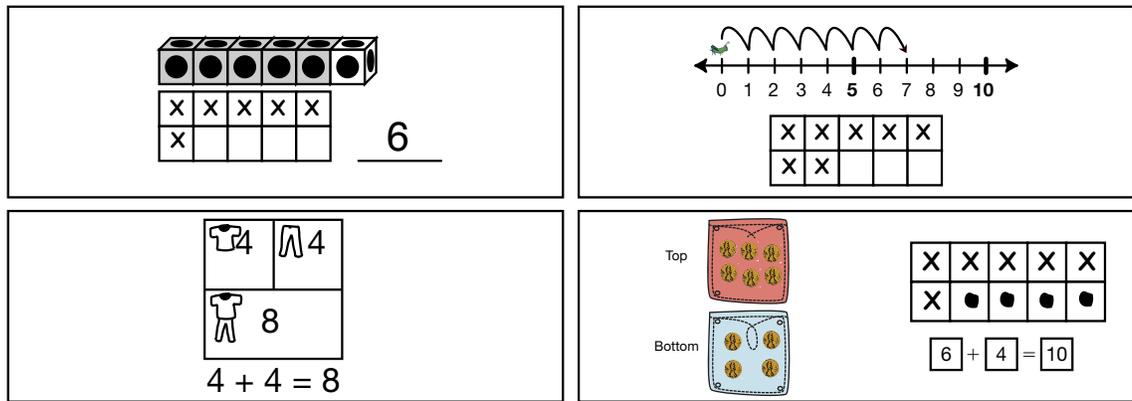


# LETTER HOME

## Pennies, Pockets, and Parts

Dear Family Member:

Your child has been using numbers for counting and measuring. Now your child will learn that numbers can be made from different combinations. For example, ten can be made from four and six and also from seven and three. Your child will use diagrams, ten frames, connecting cubes, and pennies to explore these different combinations or partitions. See Figure 1. Children who are able to partition numbers and combine numbers are able to use reasoning strategies when working with numbers.



**Figure 1:** Strategies and tools used to find and represent the partitions of a number

Students will also be working on recognizing quantities by comparing them to the benchmarks of five and ten and using the counting-on strategy. The student in Figure 2 is using the counting-on strategy.

You can help your child at home in the following ways:

**Math Tool Box at Home.** Ask your child to gather some math materials and place them in a box to use with his or her homework: coins, beans, or other counters, some paper clips, pencils, and the *Two Ten Frames* page with this letter.

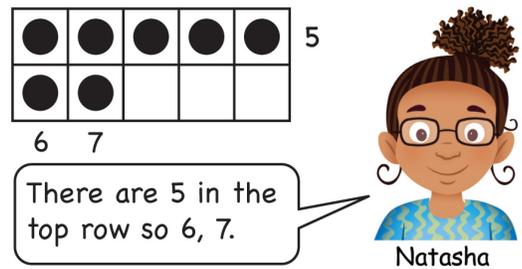
**Class Penny Jar.** Your child will use pennies for a variety of activities in this unit. If possible, please send twenty-five pennies to add to our class penny jar.

**Counting Objects by Counting On.** Encourage your child to count and tally objects. Your child can tally road signs, trees, or houses on the street. Encourage your child to use a counting-on strategy rather than counting all the objects. See Figure 2.

**Parts of Ten.** Look for quantities of ten as a whole and numbers less than ten as parts of a whole. For example, there are ten bowling pins and your child may only knock down four, or there are ten cars parked on the street and three are red.

Your efforts at home will strengthen your child's understanding of the math concepts explored at school.

Sincerely,



**Figure 2:** Student using the counting-on strategy

# Two Ten Frames



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