



Addition and Subtraction

Fact Fluency Strategies

Strategies are based on addition and to learn subtraction facts, students relate the subtraction fact to the known addition fact.

Count on by +1/+2

These facts students can mentally add on one or two more. Students should practice putting the greater number “in their head” and then counting on 1 or 2.

Examples:

$7 + 1 = 8$

$1 + 4 = 5$

$6 + 2 = 8$

$2 + 5 = 7$

$8 - 7 = 1$

$5 - 4 = 1$

$8 - 2 = 6$

$7 - 5 = 2$

Plus 0

These are facts where students need to understand that any number plus 0 is the same number.

Examples:

$4 + 0 = 4$

$0 + 7 = 7$

$10 + 0 = 10$

$4 - 0 = 4$

$7 - 7 = 0$

$10 - 0 = 10$

Add 10

These facts use place value. Students should understand that when you add 10, you add 1 ten to the tens place.

Examples:

$10 + 2 = 12$

$4 + 10 = 14$

$10 + 10 = 20$

$12 - 10 = 2$

$14 - 4 = 10$

$20 - 10 = 10$

Doubles

These facts often have to be “memorized”, but students know all doubles have an even sum because there are two equal groups.

Examples:

$4 + 4 = 8$

$6 + 6 = 12$

$8 + 8 = 16$

$8 - 4 = 4$

$12 - 6 = 6$

$16 - 8 = 8$

Ways to Make 10

These facts are the ways to make ten or “friends of ten”. Students need to learn these (with the help of a number line) because understanding ways to make ten is the foundation for many math strategies.

Examples:

$7 + 3 = 10$

$4 + 6 = 10$

$5 + 5 = 10$

$10 - 7 = 3$

$10 - 4 = 6$

$10 - 5 = 5$

Using Ten

These facts use the student knowledge of ways to make ten to help them solve facts that are close to ten.

Examples:

$$7 + 4 = 11 \text{ (Think } 7 + 3 = 10 \text{ and add 1 more)} \quad 11 - 4 = 7$$

$$9 + 5 = 14 \text{ (Think } 10 + 5 = 15 \text{ and one less is 14)} \quad 14 - 9 = 5$$

$$8 + 4 = 12 \text{ (Think } 6 + 4 = 10 \text{ and add 2 more)} \quad 12 - 8 = 4$$

$$8 + 5 = 13 \text{ (Think } 10 + 5 = 15 \text{ and 2 less is 13)} \quad 13 - 5 = 8$$

Using Doubles

Students use their knowledge of doubles to solve facts that are close to doubles.

Examples:

$$7 + 8 = 15 \text{ (} 7 + 7 = 14 \text{ and one more is 15)} \quad 15 - 8 = 7$$

$$6 + 8 = 14 \text{ (} 6 + 6 = 12 \text{ and two more is 14)} \quad 14 - 8 = 6$$

$$5 + 6 = 11 \text{ (} 6 + 6 = 12 \text{ and one less is 11)} \quad 11 - 5 = 6$$

$$5 + 7 = 12 \text{ (} 7 + 7 = 14 \text{ and two less is 12)} \quad 12 - 7 = 5$$

These strategies are based on the
Mastering Basic Math Facts: Addition and Subtraction
by Susan O'Connell and John SanGiovanni

