

Make a ten strategy math

Make a Ten Strategy Math: A Simple Technique for Mastering Addition and Subtraction

Unlocking the secrets of addition and subtraction with the intuitive "make a ten" strategy. The "make a ten" strategy is a powerful tool for teaching children basic addition and subtraction, empowering them to solve problems mentally with ease. This technique hinges on the concept of breaking down numbers into their nearest ten, simplifying the calculation process. By leveraging this strategy, children develop a deeper understanding of number relationships and build confidence in their mathematical abilities.

Understanding the "Make a Ten" Strategy

The "make a ten" strategy is based on the idea that adding or subtracting to or from a multiple of ten is easier than working with other numbers. For example, it's simpler for children to add 8 to 2 (making 10) than to add 8 to 5. The strategy works by utilizing the following steps: 1. **Identify the Number Closest to Ten:** When presented with an addition or subtraction problem, determine the number closest to ten. For instance, in the problem $7 + 5$, the number closest to ten is 7. 2. **Break Down the Other Number:** Divide the other number into parts that allow you to reach ten. In the

example above, break down 5 into 3 and 2. 3. **Add or Subtract to Reach Ten:** Combine the first number with one part of the broken-down number to reach ten. In our example, $7 + 3 = 10$. 4. **Add or Subtract the Remaining Part:** Finally, add or subtract the remaining part of the broken-down number to the result. Here, $10 + 2 = 12$.

Visualizing the "Make a Ten" Strategy

Example: $8 + 6$ • **Step 1:** The number closest to ten is 8. • **Step 2:** Break down 6 into 2 and 4. • **Step 3:** $8 + 2 = 10$. • **Step 4:** $10 + 4 = 14$. *Visual Representation:* [Insert a simple visual here, like a number line or a grouping of blocks, showing the steps involved in the "make a ten" strategy for $8 + 6$]

Advantages of the "Make a Ten" Strategy

- **Simplified Calculation:** By breaking down numbers and focusing on tens, the strategy simplifies complex calculations into manageable steps.
- **Improved Number Sense:** Through repeated use of this strategy, children develop a better understanding of number relationships and how numbers work together.
- **Enhanced Mental Math Skills:** The "make a ten" strategy encourages mental calculation, promoting fluency and reducing reliance on written algorithms.
- **Foundation for Advanced Math:** It serves as a stepping stone for more complex arithmetic concepts like carrying and borrowing.
- **Flexible Application:** It can be applied to both addition and subtraction problems.

Applications of the "Make a Ten" Strategy

The "make a ten" strategy can be incorporated into various learning contexts, including:

- **Classroom Activities:** Engage students in games and activities that reinforce the concept of making a ten, like "Ten Frames" and "Number Bonds".
- **Home Learning:** Encourage children to use the strategy

in their daily routines, like when counting change or calculating quantities during shopping. • *Real-World Applications*: The strategy can be applied to everyday tasks, such as estimating distances, measuring ingredients, or solving simple financial problems.

Strategies for Teaching the "Make a Ten" Strategy

1. **Start with Concrete Manipulatives**: Use objects like counters, blocks, or fingers to visually represent the numbers and demonstrate the steps involved in making a ten.
2. **Use Number Lines**: A number line provides a visual representation of the number sequence and can help children track the process of adding or subtracting to reach ten.
3. **Emphasize Number Bonds**: Encourage children to recognize number pairs that add up to ten (e.g., 1 and 9, 2 and 8, 3 and 7), which forms the foundation for the "make a ten" strategy.
4. **Practice with Games**: Incorporate interactive games and activities that involve making ten, like "Ten Frame Bingo" or "Number Bond Match".
5. **Provide Regular Practice**: Consistent practice is crucial for children to internalize the "make a ten" strategy and apply it confidently in various situations.

Addressing Common Challenges

While the "make a ten" strategy is generally effective, some children may face challenges in understanding or applying it. Here are some common issues and strategies to address them:

- **Difficulty Recognizing Number Pairs**: If children struggle to identify number pairs that add up to ten, provide them with visual aids like number bonds or ten frames for support.
- *Confusion with Subtraction*: To address challenges with subtraction, emphasize the inverse relationship between addition and subtraction. Explain how subtracting from ten is the same as finding the missing addend.
- **Limited Number Sense**: For children with limited number sense,

start with simpler problems and gradually introduce more complex ones. • Lack of Fluency: Regular practice and repetition are key to building fluency. Provide opportunities for children to apply the "make a ten" strategy in different contexts.

Alternative Strategies

While the "make a ten" strategy is highly effective, other strategies can be helpful for teaching addition and subtraction: **Counting On/Back**: A simple strategy that involves starting with one number and counting up or down to reach the desired result. *Number Bonds*: Focuses on recognizing number pairs that add up to a specific number, such as 10. Doubles and Near Doubles: Utilizes the knowledge of doubles facts (e.g., $4 + 4$) to solve problems involving near doubles (e.g., $4 + 5$). **Subtraction as Missing Addend**: This approach emphasizes the inverse relationship between addition and subtraction.

Conclusion

The "make a ten" strategy is a valuable tool for building a strong foundation in addition and subtraction. By understanding and applying this technique, children develop a deeper understanding of number relationships and become more confident in their mathematical abilities. Through consistent practice and creative teaching methods, we can empower children to embrace the world of numbers with ease and enthusiasm.

Advanced FAQs

1. **How does the "make a ten" strategy connect to other math concepts?** The "make a ten" strategy lays the groundwork for more advanced concepts like place value, carrying, and borrowing. It helps children understand how numbers are grouped into tens and how those groups interact in larger calculations. 2. **What are some examples of "make**

a ten" strategy in everyday life? You can use the "make a ten" strategy when paying for items in a store (e.g., "I need \$10, but I only have \$7. I can pay the remaining \$3"), or when measuring ingredients for a recipe (e.g., "I need 8 ounces, but I only have 5. I can add 3 more ounces to make 8"). 3. **Is the "make a ten" strategy suitable for all learners?** While the "make a ten" strategy is generally effective, some learners may benefit from other strategies or require additional support. It is essential to assess each child's individual needs and adjust the teaching approach accordingly. 4. **Can the "make a ten" strategy be used for larger numbers?** The core concept of making a ten can be applied to larger numbers, but it may require adapting the strategy. For example, when adding $28 + 15$, you could break down 15 into 2 and 13 to make $28 + 2 = 30$, then add the remaining 13. 5. **What are some common misconceptions about the "make a ten" strategy?** A common misconception is that the "make a ten" strategy is only applicable to simple addition problems. It can also be used for subtraction, as well as larger numbers and more complex calculations. However, the strategy may need to be adapted for more challenging problems.

Unlock the Power of Ten: Mastering the "Make a Ten" Strategy in Math

Ever watched a child stare at a math problem, their brow furrowed in concentration, and thought, "If only there was a simpler way"? Well, there is! In the world of early math education, few strategies are as elegant, effective, and foundational as the "make a ten" strategy. This isn't just a trick; it's a powerful cognitive tool that helps young learners build number sense, improve addition and subtraction fluency, and pave the way for more complex mathematical concepts down the line. So, what exactly is this magic "make a ten" strategy, and why is it so darn important? Let's dive in and explore!

What is the "Make a Ten" Strategy?

At its core, the "make a ten" strategy is a mental math technique used primarily for addition and subtraction problems, especially those involving numbers close to ten. The fundamental idea is to break down a number into parts so that one of the parts forms a ten with another number in the problem. This creates a simpler, more manageable calculation. Think of it like this: instead of trying to juggle multiple numbers at once, we're strategically rearranging them to create a familiar benchmark – the number 10. Once we've made a ten, adding or subtracting becomes much easier because we're essentially adding or subtracting from that neat, round number.

How it Works for Addition

Let's take an example: $8 + 5$. For a young child, adding 5 directly to 8 might feel like a leap. But with the "make a ten" strategy, they can think: 1. **Identify the target:** We want to make a ten. 2. **Break down the second number:** How can we get from 8 to 10? We need 2 more. So, we break 5 into 2 and 3. 3. **Form the ten:** Now we have $8 + 2 + 3$. We add 8 and 2 to make 10. 4. **Add the remainder:** Finally, we add the remaining 3 to 10, which equals 13. So, $8 + 5$ becomes $10 + 3$, which is a much more accessible calculation for many young learners. Other examples include $7 + 6$ (break 6 into 3 and 3: $7 + 3 + 3 = 10 + 3 = 13$) or $9 + 4$ (break 4 into 1 and 3: $9 + 1 + 3 = 10 + 3 = 13$).

How it Works for Subtraction

The "make a ten" strategy is equally powerful for subtraction. Let's look at $13 - 5$. 1. **Identify the target:** We're taking away 5. 2. **Break down the subtrahend:** We can break 5 into parts that help us reach ten first. Since we have 13, we can take away 3 to get to 10. So, we break 5 into 3 and 2. 3. **Subtract to make ten:** Now we have $13 - 3 - 2$. We subtract 3 from 13 to get 10. 4. **Subtract the remainder:** Finally, we subtract the remaining

2 from 10, which equals 8. So, $13 - 5$ becomes $10 - 2$, resulting in 8. Another example is $12 - 4$. Break 4 into 2 and 2. Then $12 - 2 - 2 = 10 - 2 = 8$. Or $11 - 5$. Break 5 into 1 and 4. Then $11 - 1 - 4 = 10 - 4 = 6$.

Why is "Make a Ten" So Important?

This strategy isn't just about getting the right answer; it's about building a robust understanding of numbers. Here's why it's a cornerstone of early math development:

- Develops Number Sense:** It encourages children to think flexibly about numbers, understanding that numbers can be decomposed and recomposed. They learn that 5 isn't just 5; it can be 2 and 3, or 1 and 4, or other combinations. This flexibility is crucial for all future math learning.
- Builds Fluency:** By breaking down problems into smaller, easier steps, children can solve addition and subtraction facts more quickly and accurately. This builds confidence and reduces math anxiety.
- Foundation for Place Value:** The strategy directly reinforces the concept of tens and ones. Recognizing that 10 is a special unit helps children grasp place value concepts later on, which is vital for understanding larger numbers.
- Supports Mental Math Skills:** In a world where mental math is increasingly valued, "make a ten" provides a powerful tool for instant calculations without needing to rely on fingers or manipulatives.
- Prepares for More Complex Operations:** The logic of decomposing and regrouping used in "make a ten" is a precursor to carrying and borrowing in addition and subtraction with larger numbers, and it's even foundational for multiplication and division.
- Visual and Kinesthetic Learning:** The strategy can be easily illustrated with manipulatives like ten frames, linking cubes, or even drawings, making it accessible to different learning styles.

Keywords and Concepts Related to "Make a Ten"

When we talk about "make a ten," several related terms and concepts often

come up: * **Number Bonds:** These are pairs of numbers that add up to a specific total. In the "make a ten" strategy, we focus on number bonds to 10 (e.g., $2+8=10$, $3+7=10$, $4+6=10$, $5+5=10$, $1+9=10$). Understanding these bonds is key to breaking down numbers. * **Ten Frames:** This is a 10-square grid (usually two rows of five) used to visualize numbers up to 10. Ten frames are excellent tools for teaching the "make a ten" strategy. Children can physically place counters on the frame and see how many more are needed to fill it. * **Decomposition and Composition:** The strategy relies on breaking numbers apart (decomposition) and putting them back together (composition) to create tens. * **Mental Math Strategies:** "Make a ten" is a prime example of a mental math strategy designed to simplify calculations. * **Addition Facts and Subtraction Facts:** Mastering these basic facts is a goal of elementary math, and "make a ten" is a highly effective pathway to achieving this mastery, particularly for facts around 10. * **Number Sense Development:** This is the overarching goal, and "make a ten" is a significant contributor to building strong number sense in young mathematicians. * **Counting Strategies:** Children often use counting on or counting back. "Make a ten" provides a more efficient alternative by reorganizing the counting process. * **Regrouping:** While formal regrouping (carrying/borrowing) comes later, the conceptual understanding of taking from one number to make a ten and then adding or subtracting the remainder is embedded in this strategy.

Teaching the "Make a Ten" Strategy Effectively

To truly harness the power of this strategy, educators and parents need to approach it with intention and a variety of methods.

Using Manipulatives and Visuals

* **Ten Frames:** This is the quintessential tool. Show students how to fill a ten frame with the first number, then use counters to see how many more

are needed to make a full ten. For $8 + 5$, they fill 8 spaces on the ten frame. They can then see they need 2 more to fill it. They take 2 counters from the 5, making a ten, and are left with 3. So, $8 + 5$ becomes $10 + 3$. * **Linking Cubes/Counters:** Similar to ten frames, students can group cubes into sets of 10. For $7 + 6$, they can make a tower of 7 and a tower of 6. They can then move 3 cubes from the tower of 6 to the tower of 7 to make a full tower of 10, leaving them with 3 cubes from the original tower of 6. This visually shows $10 + 3$. * **Number Lines:** A number line can also be used. To solve $9 + 4$, start at 9. Jump 1 to get to 10. Then, jump the remaining 3 to reach 13. For subtraction, like $12 - 5$, start at 12 and jump back 2 to get to 10. Then jump back the remaining 3 to reach 7.

From Concrete to Abstract

The progression of learning this strategy should be gradual: 1.

Concrete: Using physical objects and manipulatives. 2.

Representational: Drawing pictures, using ten frames on paper, or using number lines. 3. **Abstract:** Working with number sentences and mental calculations. It's vital not to rush this process. Children need ample time with concrete materials to build a solid conceptual understanding before transitioning to purely abstract thinking.

Practice Makes Perfect (and Fluent!)

Consistent practice is key. This can be incorporated into daily math lessons, homework, and even informal games. * **Games:** Card games like "Go Fish" using cards numbered up to 10 can be adapted. Or create a matching game with number bonds to 10. * **Word Problems:** Presenting word problems that lend themselves to the "make a ten" strategy helps children see its real-world application. * **Fact Families:** Reinforce how addition and subtraction facts are related. If they know $8 + 2 = 10$, they can use that to solve $8 + 5$.

Common Challenges and How to Address Them

Even with a great strategy, some students might struggle. * **Difficulty with Number Bonds:** If a child doesn't know their number bonds to 10 fluently, they'll have trouble breaking down numbers. Spend extra time practicing these. * **Over-reliance on Fingers:** Some students might still default to counting all their fingers. Gently guide them to break down the numbers first. Ask, "How many do you need to make a ten with that number?" * **Confusing Addition and Subtraction:** The process is similar but reversed. Ensure clear instruction for each operation. For subtraction, emphasize "taking away" from the ten. * **Abstract Thinking:** For some, the jump to mental math is difficult. Continue providing visual aids and opportunities for verbalizing their thinking process. "Tell me how you made a ten." ### The Long-Term Impact of "Make a Ten" Mastering the "make a ten" strategy is far more than just learning a new way to add and subtract. It's about equipping children with a fundamental tool that will serve them throughout their mathematical journey. It fosters confidence, encourages flexible thinking, and builds a strong foundation for abstract mathematical concepts. So, the next time you see a child grappling with a sum like $7 + 5$, remember the elegant simplicity of the "make a ten" strategy. It's not just a math trick; it's a pathway to deeper understanding and a lifelong love of numbers. By understanding and effectively teaching this strategy, we empower our young learners to not just solve problems, but to truly understand the logic and beauty of mathematics. It's a small step that leads to giant leaps in mathematical competency!

Understanding the Make a Ten

Strategy in Mathematics

The Make a Ten strategy is a foundational approach in elementary arithmetic that simplifies addition and subtraction by leveraging the base-ten number system. At its core, this method helps learners break down numbers into tens and units, making mental computation faster and more intuitive. Rather than relying solely on rote memorization, it encourages a deeper understanding of how numbers relate to one another, especially around the critical threshold of ten. This strategy is especially valuable for building number sense and fluency in young learners, forming a bridge between basic counting and more complex mathematical operations.

The Core Concept Behind Make a Ten

The key insight of the Make a Ten strategy lies in recognizing that numbers close to ten—like 8, 9, 12, or 19—can be adjusted to form a ten quickly. For example, when adding $8 + 5$, instead of adding directly, one might decompose 5 into 2 and 3, then add 8 to 2 to make 10, and then add the remaining 3. The result becomes $10 + 3 = 13$. Similarly, in subtraction, if you're solving $14 - 6$, you can reframe 6 as 4 and 2, add 9 (which makes a ten), then subtract 4 and 2 separately to arrive at 3. This mental restructuring reduces cognitive load and supports flexible thinking, enabling students to handle calculations mentally with greater ease.

Applications in Everyday Problem Solving

The Make a Ten strategy extends beyond classroom exercises and proves highly effective in real-world contexts. Whether estimating costs while shopping, dividing resources among groups, or managing time efficiently, this approach supports quick, accurate estimations. For instance, if a grocery bill totals \$12.75 and you need to split it evenly among two people, mentally adjusting \$12.75 to $\$10 + 2.75$ allows for faster division: \$10 split

evenly is \$5, and \$2.75 split roughly becomes \$1.38 and \$1.37. This mental agility fosters confidence in handling numerical tasks in daily life, transforming abstract math into practical tools.

Benefits for Learning and Cognitive Development

One of the most compelling advantages of the Make a Ten strategy is its role in nurturing strong numerical fluency. By reinforcing the relationship between tens and units, it strengthens mental math skills, enabling students to perform calculations more efficiently and with less reliance on calculators or written work. This mental agility enhances working memory and problem-solving speed, both essential for academic success and real-life decision-making. Moreover, by promoting flexible thinking, it helps learners understand multiple pathways to the same answer, fostering creativity and adaptability in mathematical reasoning.

Integrating Make a Ten into Curriculum and Instruction

Educators increasingly embrace the Make a Ten strategy as a cornerstone of effective mathematics instruction. It supports the shift from procedural fluency to conceptual understanding, aligning with modern teaching frameworks that emphasize mathematical reasoning over memorization. Teachers incorporate this approach through targeted exercises, visual models like ten frames, and real-world scenarios that invite students to explore and apply the strategy organically. By embedding it across grade levels, schools cultivate a generation of learners who not only solve problems accurately but also enjoy engaging deeply with numbers.

Looking Ahead: The Enduring Relevance of Make a Ten

As mathematics education continues to evolve, the Make a Ten strategy remains a timeless tool with enduring value. Its simplicity masks a profound impact on building foundational skills that support advanced learning in algebra, fractions, and beyond. In an era where computational speed and conceptual understanding are paramount, this strategy remains indispensable—not just for children, but for lifelong learners navigating an increasingly data-driven world. By grounding students in the logic of ten, it cultivates a natural intuition for numbers that enriches both academic achievement and everyday numeracy.

Unlock the Power of Ten: A Deep Dive into the Make a Ten Strategy in Math

In the world of early elementary mathematics, few foundational concepts are as transformative as the ability to "make a ten." This powerful mental math strategy, often introduced in kindergarten and first grade, forms the bedrock for understanding addition, subtraction, and place value. Far from being a mere trick, mastering the make a ten strategy equips young learners with a flexible and efficient approach to number manipulation, paving the way for greater mathematical fluency and confidence.

This in-depth article will explore the "make a ten strategy math" in detail, examining its pedagogical underpinnings, practical applications, and the myriad benefits it offers to young mathematicians. We'll delve into why this strategy is so effective and how educators and parents can best support its development.

The Essence of Making a Ten: Why Ten is So Special

Our number system, the base-ten system, is intrinsically linked to the number ten. Ten is the first two-digit number and represents a complete unit in our counting system. This makes it a natural and powerful anchor for mathematical thinking. The make a ten strategy leverages this inherent significance by breaking down numbers into components that readily combine to form a ten.

Essentially, the make a ten strategy involves decomposing one of the addends (or minuends in subtraction) into two parts: one part that completes a ten with the other addend, and the remaining part. This allows for a two-step process that simplifies the arithmetic. For example, to solve $7 + 5$, a child using the make a ten strategy would think:

1. "I need 3 more to make 10 from 7."
2. "I can break 5 into 3 and 2."
3. "So, $7 + 3$ equals 10."
4. "And then $10 + 2$ equals 12."

This seemingly simple maneuver transforms a potentially challenging calculation into two much easier ones: making a ten and then adding a small remaining number.

The Pedagogical Roots: How Make a Ten Fits into the Curriculum

The make a ten strategy is not an isolated concept. It aligns seamlessly with several key mathematical learning objectives for early grades:

1. **Number Sense:** Developing a deep understanding of how numbers are related and can be composed and decomposed.
2. **Addition and Subtraction Fluency:** Moving beyond rote

memorization to efficient mental calculation.

3. **Place Value:** Reinforcing the idea that numbers are made up of tens and ones.
4. **Part-Part-Whole Relationships:** Understanding that a whole number can be broken down into smaller parts.

Curriculum standards, such as the Common Core State Standards for Mathematics (CCSS.Math.Content.1.OA.B.3 and CCSS.Math.Content.1.OA.C.6), explicitly emphasize the importance of strategies like making a ten for addition and subtraction within 20.

Visualizing the Strategy: Tools and Manipulatives

Concrete and visual aids are crucial for introducing and solidifying the make a ten strategy. Without these tools, the abstract concept of decomposing numbers can be difficult for young learners to grasp. Common manipulatives used include:

Ten Frames

The humble ten frame is arguably the most powerful tool for teaching the make a ten strategy. This 2x5 grid provides a visual representation of numbers up to ten. When students place objects (like counters or pom-poms) on a ten frame, they can visually see how many more are needed to "fill the ten."

For instance, with 7 counters on a ten frame, students can easily see that there are 3 empty spaces. This direct visual reinforces the idea that $7 + 3 = 10$.

Connecting Cubes/Linking Cubes

These interlocking cubes are versatile. Students can build towers of ten, and then break off the necessary number of cubes to complete a ten. For example, to solve $8 + 4$, they can make a tower of 8, then take 2 more from the group of 4 to complete a tower of 10, leaving 2 cubes remaining. The calculation then becomes $10 + 2 = 12$.

Number Bonds

Number bonds are diagrams that show the relationship between a whole number and its parts. For the make a ten strategy, number bonds are invaluable for visualizing the decomposition of a number. A number bond for 5 might show 2 and 3, illustrating that 5 can be broken into 2 and 3.

Number Lines

While sometimes introduced slightly later, number lines can also be used to visually represent the make a ten strategy. Students can hop to the nearest ten and then add the remaining part.

The Make a Ten Strategy in Action: Addition Examples

Let's explore how the make a ten strategy applies to various addition problems within 20:

$9 + 3 = ?$

1. Identify the larger number: 9.
2. Determine what's needed to make 10 from 9: 1.
3. Decompose the other addend (3) into 1 and 2.
4. Rewrite the problem as: $9 + 1 + 2$.

5. Solve the first part: $9 + 1 = 10$.
6. Solve the second part: $10 + 2 = 12$.
7. Therefore, $9 + 3 = 12$.

$8 + 5 = ?$

1. Identify the larger number: 8.
2. Determine what's needed to make 10 from 8: 2.
3. Decompose the other addend (5) into 2 and 3.
4. Rewrite the problem as: $8 + 2 + 3$.
5. Solve the first part: $8 + 2 = 10$.
6. Solve the second part: $10 + 3 = 13$.
7. Therefore, $8 + 5 = 13$.

$7 + 6 = ?$

1. Identify the larger number: 7.
2. Determine what's needed to make 10 from 7: 3.
3. Decompose the other addend (6) into 3 and 3.
4. Rewrite the problem as: $7 + 3 + 3$.
5. Solve the first part: $7 + 3 = 10$.
6. Solve the second part: $10 + 3 = 13$.
7. Therefore, $7 + 6 = 13$.

Extending the Strategy: Subtraction with Make a Ten

The make a ten strategy isn't limited to addition; it's equally powerful for subtraction. The principle is slightly different: we first subtract to reach a ten, and then subtract the remaining amount.

$12 - 5 = ?$

1. Identify the minuend: 12.

2. Recognize that 12 is 10 and 2.
3. Consider the subtrahend (5).
4. First, subtract the ones from the minuend to reach ten: $12 - 2 = 10$.
5. Determine how much of the subtrahend (5) has been used: 2.
6. Determine how much of the subtrahend remains: $5 - 2 = 3$.
7. Subtract the remaining part from ten: $10 - 3 = 7$.
8. Therefore, $12 - 5 = 7$.

14 - 6 = ?

1. Identify the minuend: 14 (which is 10 and 4).
2. Consider the subtrahend (6).
3. Subtract the ones from the minuend to reach ten: $14 - 4 = 10$.
4. Determine how much of the subtrahend (6) has been used: 4.
5. Determine how much of the subtrahend remains: $6 - 4 = 2$.
6. Subtract the remaining part from ten: $10 - 2 = 8$.
7. Therefore, $14 - 6 = 8$.

Developing Automaticity: From Concrete to Abstract

The journey of mastering the make a ten strategy involves a progression from concrete manipulatives to abstract thinking. Educators should guide students through these stages:

1. **Concrete Stage:** Using physical objects like ten frames and linking cubes to physically build and decompose numbers.
2. **Representational Stage:** Moving to drawings, diagrams, and pictorial representations of the manipulatives. This could involve drawing circles to represent counters or using number bond diagrams.
3. **Abstract Stage:** Performing the calculations mentally, relying on internalized understanding of number relationships.

This gradual release of responsibility is key to ensuring that students truly

understand the underlying principles, rather than just mimicking a procedure. Providing ample opportunities for practice through games, worksheets, and real-world problem-solving scenarios is essential.

The Benefits of Mastering the Make a Ten Strategy

The impact of the make a ten strategy extends far beyond simple addition and subtraction within 20. Its benefits include:

1. **Increased Math Fluency:** Students can solve problems more quickly and accurately.
2. **Enhanced Number Sense:** A deeper understanding of number composition and decomposition.
3. **Stronger Place Value Understanding:** The strategy inherently reinforces the concept of tens and ones.
4. **Improved Problem-Solving Skills:** Students develop flexible thinking and the ability to break down complex problems.
5. **Reduced Math Anxiety:** By providing a clear and logical path to solving problems, it builds confidence and reduces frustration.
6. **Foundation for More Advanced Concepts:** The skills learned are transferable to multi-digit addition and subtraction, multiplication, and division.

Supporting the Make a Ten Strategy at Home

Parents and guardians play a vital role in supporting their child's mathematical development. Here are some ways to reinforce the make a ten strategy at home:

1. **Use everyday objects:** Count snacks, toys, or utensils and practice making tens.

2. **Play math games:** Many board games and card games involve addition and subtraction, offering opportunities to apply the strategy.
3. **Utilize online resources:** Numerous educational websites and apps offer interactive games and practice for the make a ten strategy.
4. **Talk about math:** Engage your child in conversations about numbers and how they can be combined or separated.
5. **Be patient and encouraging:** Celebrate small victories and provide a positive learning environment.

Conclusion: Building a Solid Mathematical Foundation

The make a ten strategy is a cornerstone of early mathematics education. By providing a concrete, visual, and logical pathway to understanding addition and subtraction, it empowers young learners with essential skills for lifelong mathematical success. Investing time and effort in teaching and practicing this strategy will undoubtedly yield significant returns in a child's mathematical journey, building confidence, fluency, and a genuine appreciation for the elegant world of numbers. It's a simple yet profound concept that truly unlocks the power of our number system.

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Critical thinking also benefits from digital accessibility. When multiple resources are easily available, readers can compare ideas, question assumptions, and develop informed perspectives. Engaging with **Make A Ten Strategy Math** alongside other materials fosters analytical skills and deeper understanding, which are essential in both academic and professional contexts.

Digital formats encourage exploration across disciplines. A reader interested in one topic can quickly branch into related areas, discovering connections that might otherwise remain hidden. This freedom supports creativity and innovation, as ideas often emerge at the intersection of different fields.

For students, downloadable books provide practical advantages. Offline access ensures uninterrupted study, while annotation tools simplify note-taking and revision. Digital organization makes it easier to manage multiple subjects and materials, reducing stress and improving focus.

Educators also benefit from digital availability. Sharing resources becomes simpler, and materials can be updated or supplemented without logistical challenges. Access to **Make A Ten Strategy Math** allows instructors to adapt content to different learning environments, including remote and hybrid settings.

Accessibility is another important consideration. Digital readers often include features such as adjustable text size, night mode, and text-to-speech options. These tools help accommodate diverse learning needs, ensuring that **Make A Ten Strategy Math** remains accessible to a broader audience.

Environmental impact adds another dimension to digital learning. While technology is not without cost, distributing content digitally often requires fewer physical resources than printing and shipping books. Over time, this approach contributes to more sustainable knowledge sharing.

Organization also improves with digital libraries. Files can be categorized, backed up, and retrieved instantly. Readers can build personal collections that grow without clutter, making it easier to revisit **Make A Ten Strategy Math** whenever needed.

Perhaps most importantly, digital access changes how people feel about learning. When information is easy to reach, curiosity feels welcome rather than inconvenient. Readers are more likely to explore new ideas, return to old interests, and continue learning simply because the barriers are low.

In the end, downloading **Make A Ten Strategy Math** represents more than a technological convenience. It reflects a shift toward accessible, flexible, and thoughtful learning. When used responsibly through trusted platforms, digital books become reliable companions—supporting curiosity, critical thinking, and continuous personal growth in a world that never stops changing.

Questions & Answers About make a ten strategy math

No	Question	Answer
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1	What exactly is the 'Make a Ten' strategy in math, and why is it so important for young learners?	The 'Make a Ten' strategy is a foundational mental math technique where students decompose numbers to create a group of 10 first, then add the remaining parts. It's crucial because it leverages our number system's base-ten structure, making addition and subtraction more intuitive and easier to solve mentally, paving the way for more complex math.
2	How can I help my child master the 'Make a Ten' strategy for addition problems, like $8 + 5$?	For $8 + 5$, the strategy involves breaking down the '5' into '2' and '3'. You'd then do $8 + 2 = 10$ (making the ten), and finally $10 + 3 = 13$. Encourage using manipulatives like counters or drawing pictures to visualize this decomposition and rebuilding process.
3	Can the 'Make a Ten' strategy be used for subtraction too? How does that work for a problem like $13 - 6$?	Absolutely! For $13 - 6$, you'd first subtract to 'make ten'. Break 6 into 3 and 3. Subtract 3 from 13 to get 10 ($13 - 3 = 10$). Then, subtract the remaining 3 from 10 ($10 - 3 = 7$). So, $13 - 6 = 7$. This simplifies the subtraction by working with a familiar benchmark number (10).
4	What are some common mistakes kids make when learning 'Make a Ten', and how can I address them?	Common mistakes include difficulty with number decomposition (knowing what parts make up a number) and not consistently making the 'ten' first. Address this by using visual aids, practicing number bond drills, and explicitly modeling the 'make a ten' step before moving to the final addition or subtraction.
5	Besides addition and subtraction, what other math concepts does the 'Make a Ten' strategy help build a strong foundation for?	The 'Make a Ten' strategy is a springboard for many other concepts! It directly supports understanding place value, fluency with basic facts, mental math, and provides a solid base for learning algorithms for addition and subtraction with larger numbers. It also aids in grasping multiplication and division concepts later on.

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Core Discussion

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Practical Use

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