MATHS FIELD GUIDE · GRADE 1

Use ten to help you add

OPENING PROBLEM

Start at six. Where do two more land?

A 

B 

02 Two routes to a total
03 Rules and worked cases
04 Fill the ten-frame
05 Compare the models
06 Build ten and use the leftovers
07 Check your reasoning

ILLUSTRATED PROBLEM SHEET

Two routes to a total

You can count on, make a pair, or first fill a ten.

1

A ○○○○○○

B ○○

Start at six. Where do two more land?

Seven, eight. The sum is eight.

2

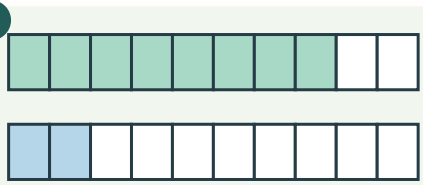
A ○○○○

B ○○○○

Which double do you see?

Four and four give eight without counting each dot again.

3



How many are needed to fill ten from eight?

Two spaces. From 8 + 5, use two, then add the other three to ten: 13.

4

A ○○○○○

B ○○○

If one counter moves from A to B, does the sum change?

Four plus four still gives eight.

7 + 6
double six, then one more: 13.

7 + 6
make ten with three, then add three: 13.

CHAPTER PROBLEM

To add 9 + 5, how many from the five fill the ten? How many remain?

Use one to make ten. Four remain, so the total is fourteen.

MATHS REFERENCE · GRADE 1

Use ten to help you add

Adding within 20 still joins amounts.

A full ten helps us see the total without counting every counter from one.

Cases to recognise

Situation	What to do and why
9 + 6	Give one to nine to make ten. Five remain: 15.
7 + 7	A known double gives 14.

Read the model

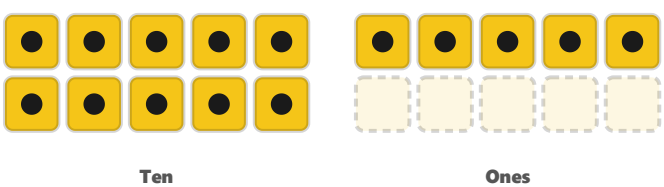
Count on from the larger amount

Start with twelve. Add three more.

Say thirteen, fourteen, fifteen for the three new counters. Twelve and three make fifteen.

Double ten frame

Two ten frames - fill the first before the second



Ten Ones

15

Numbers to 20

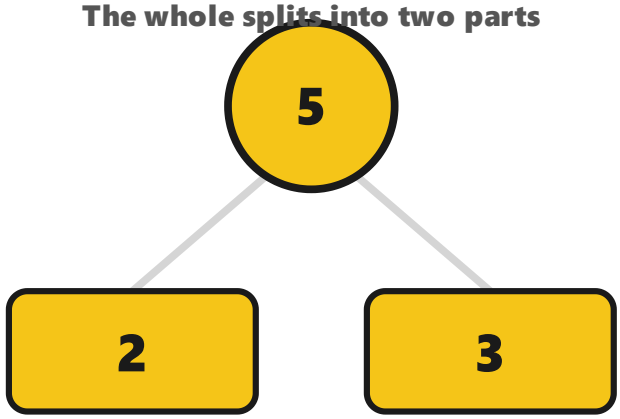
Make ten first

To add 8 and 5, use two of the five to fill the first frame.

Eight and two make ten. Three of the five are still left.

Number bond

The whole splits into two parts



5 = 2 + 3

count on Start from an amount and count the added ones.
bridge ten Make ten before adding what is left.
total The whole amount after joining.



Can either side be read first?

Yes. Each row has two.

WORKED INVESTIGATION

Fill the ten-frame

Eight counters fill all but two spaces of a ten-frame. To add five, fill the two spaces first. The three counters left make thirteen.

Look at this part	What it tells you
Start	8
Take 2 from the 5	10
Add the other 3	13

Work it through

Try 9 + 6. Nine needs just one counter to make ten. Split six into one and five. Ten and five makes fifteen.

Catch the mistake

After using two of the five, adding five again would count those two twice. Keep the unused counters in a separate little group.

Compare the cases

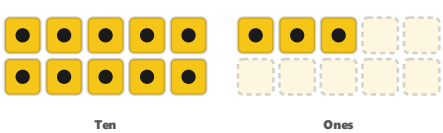
Finish the join

Now we have ten and three. The total is thirteen.

8 + 5 = 13. The five was split into two and three; no counters were added or lost.

Double ten frame

Two ten frames - fill the first before the second



13

Numbers to 20

Try a different ten bridge

For 9 + 4, use one of the four to make ten.

Three remain. Ten and three make thirteen.

Change one condition

Swap the groups in 8 + 5. Starting at eight usually takes fewer count-on steps, but both orders produce thirteen.

3 + 2
↓
5
↓
4 + 1

Can different additions have the same total?

Yes. Both describe five.

USE TEN TO HELP YOU ADD

Compare the models

Choose a helpful method

For 14 + 2, count on two: fifteen, sixteen.

For 7 + 6, making ten can help: use three, then add the three left. Both methods give the right total.

Do not use a part twice

When you use two counters to make ten, they are already in the total.

For 8 + 5, add only the three left after making ten, not all five again.

Try with two frames

Build seven counters and another group of five.

Move three from the five to fill the first frame. Ten and two make twelve.

Explain your reasoning

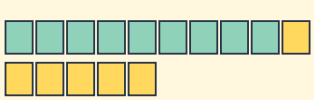
Start with thirteen. Add two. What is the total?

Fifteen. Count on: fourteen, fifteen.

Two more worked cases

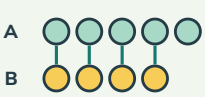
Situation	Reasoning
7 + 8	Start from 7 + 7 = 14 and add the extra one to get 15.
12 + 5	Keep the ten and join two ones to five ones: 17.

Which pair makes ten first?



For 9 + 6, split six into one and five. Move one to nine. The two new groups are 10 and 5, so the total is 15.

For 8 + 7, move two from the seven to the eight. The same five remain. Can you show why both sums match?



How could adding just one make the rows equal?

Add one to B. Adding one to A would increase the difference.

ILLUSTRATED PROBLEM SHEET

Build ten and use the leftovers

Ten ones can be traded for one ten.

1



1 tens 0 ones

How many ones make this rod?

Count its ten little blocks. One ten means ten ones.

2




1 tens 3 ones

What number is shown?

One ten and three ones make thirteen.

3



2 tens 0 ones

What if the loose ones are gone?

Two tens still make twenty.

4




2 tens 6 ones

Add four loose ones. What can you trade?

The six and four make a new ten. Three tens make thirty.

Ten loose ones
one rod.

One rod broken into ones
ten loose ones.

CHAPTER PROBLEM

After making ten for 8 + 4, should you add all four again?

No. Two are already used. Add the two left to ten: twelve.

QUESTION BANK · FOLD OR COVER THE RIGHT COLUMN

Check your reasoning

Try the problem	Solution and reasoning
01 Which is easier to make into a ten, 9 + 4 or 6 + 7?	Both work. Nine needs one, while six needs four. Each total is thirteen.
02 A packet of ten opens. Did the number of objects increase?	No. There are ten loose ones in place of one full packet.
03 Use a full ten to find 7 + 6. Which part of the six goes into the frame?	Three counters fill the frame. Three more remain. Ten and three is thirteen.
04 8 + 6: how much do you take from six to fill ten?	Take two. Four remain, so the sum is fourteen.
05 Use a double to find 6 + 7.	Six plus six is twelve. The extra one makes thirteen.
06 Eight spaces are filled. Add four counters. How many stay outside the full frame? 	Two fill the frame and two stay outside. Ten plus two makes twelve.

6 = 4 + □
↓
4 + 2 = 6

What fits the empty square?

Two. Four and two match the six on the other side.

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