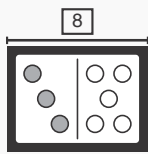


Name _____

Understand Addition and Subtraction

Dear Family,

Your child is learning about addition and subtraction. In this topic, your child will learn to solve problems by adding or subtracting and writing addition and subtraction equations. These are important foundational skills that will allow your child to communicate mathematical ideas and reasoning. These skills will also allow your child to analyze the information given in word problems and find solutions. Your child will learn how to use models to solve word problems.



Each side of the mat represents parts of a whole. The number in the box above the mat represents the total. You can complete the model based on information given in a word problem. When one of the parts is missing, write a subtraction equation or an equation with an unknown addend. When the total is missing, write an addition equation.

Writing Addition Equations

Materials 8 small objects, paper, pencil

Take 5 small objects, such as paper clips or buttons, and divide them into 2 groups. Have your child write 2 addition equations for the objects. Then allow your child to divide the objects into 2 different groups. Write 2 addition equations for the objects and have your child help you decide if they are correct. Repeat the activity with 6 and 8 objects.

Observe Your Child

Discuss how the objects are good tools to model the equations. Then discuss other ways to model the equations.