

Helping kids get beyond counting on fingers and counting up

If all we do is provide more practice, we help students get faster, but they just get faster at their inefficient strategies, like counting on their fingers.



1. Knowing how to make ten, or make “friendly numbers”. This is the basis of our base ten system

2. Strategies. If we are adding two single digit numbers that are close together, we may use doubles, doubles plus one, doubles minus one.

$$6+7$$

Think $6+6$ and one more or $7+7$ and one less

If the two numbers are far apart, we decompose numbers to make ten (friendly number strategy)

$$8+4$$

Think $8+2+2$

$$10+2$$

This is a simple but effective video:

https://youtu.be/_f9aS2wqUTk



Making ten and using friendly numbers

<https://youtu.be/UJvA5C11WIQ>

<https://youtu.be/MaSLWzPXieo>

