

Making Ten to Add

2nd Grade

The mental trick that beats counting on fingers every time.

Ten is easy to add to. So get to ten first, then add whatever is left.

1 FIND THE BIGGER NUMBER

1

Start from the larger one — fewer steps to track.

2 MAKE IT UP TO TEN

2

Take just enough from the other number to reach ten.

3 ADD WHAT IS LEFT

3

Ten plus a small number is instant.

WORKED: $8 + 5$

8 needs 2 more to reach 10

5 breaks into 2 and 3

$$10 + 3 = 13$$

This is why number bonds to ten matter so much. Everything else leans on them.