
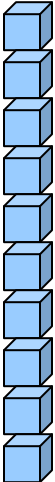


# Math Strategies

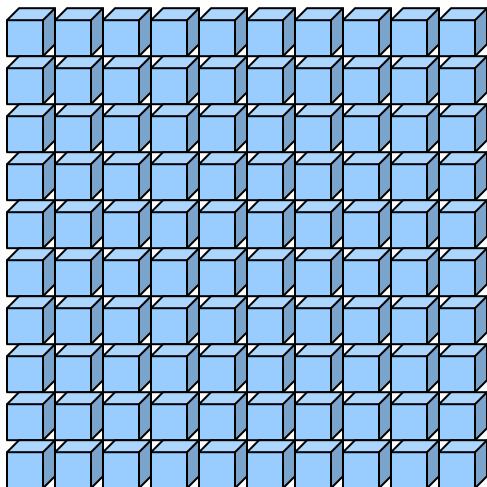
Your 2<sup>nd</sup> graders learn different strategies to add and subtract. They will use the base-ten system this year to show numbers, as well as using them to add and subtract numbers. The **base-ten system** uses pieces to represent each **place value**. These manipulatives allow students to visually see what they are doing.

## Base Ten Pieces:

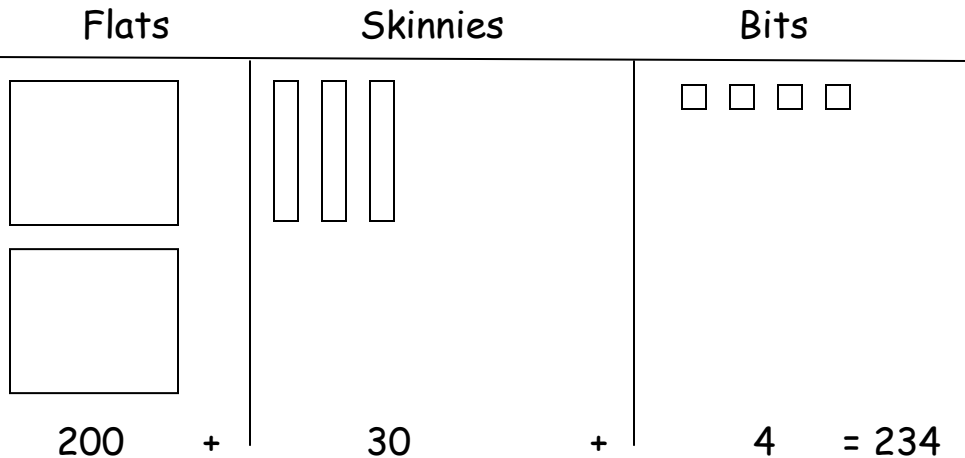
**Bit**  = One's place value or how many ones you have.  
Bit = 1

**Skinny**  = Ten's Place Value or how many groups of tens you have.  
1 Skinny = 10 bits

**Flat** = Hundred's Place Value or how many groups of hundred you have.  
1 Flat = 10 skinnies = 100 bits

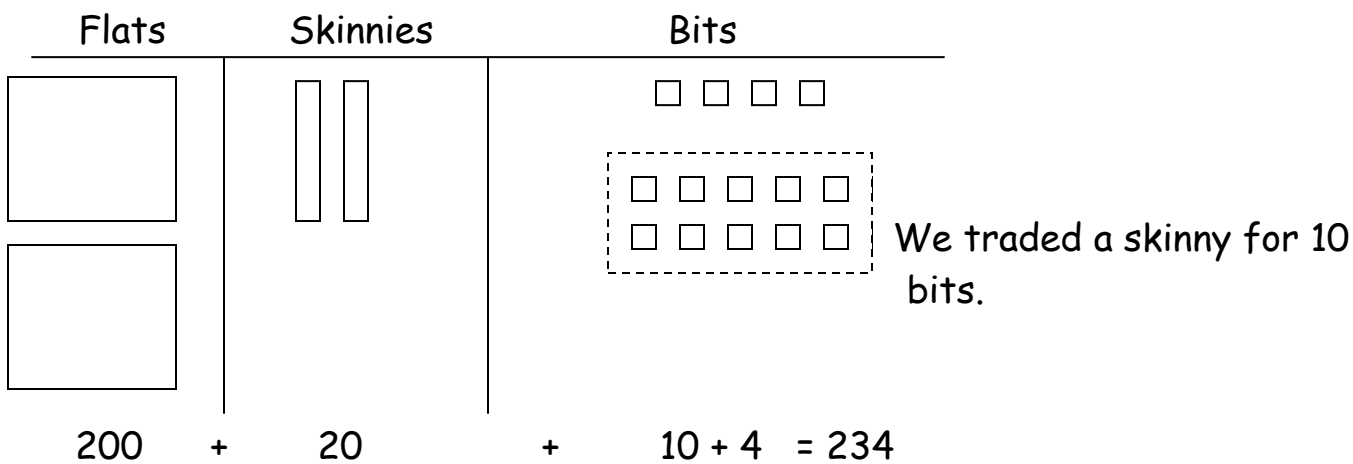


For example one way to show the number 234 is:



This is the way that would use the fewest base ten pieces.

Another way that uses more base-ten pieces but still shows 234:



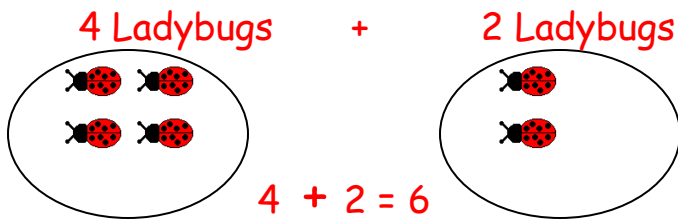
**Trading, regrouping or borrowing** pieces helps students to see and understand exactly what they are doing. When adding numbers together your child sees that to carry or trade a group of ten up to the next place value, whether is it ten bits for a skinny or ten skinnies for a flat. When subtracting, your child can see that they can borrow or trade a flat down for ten skinnies or a skinny down for ten bits, if they need to. By the time they learn the paper/pencil method (our way when growing up) they understand why they carry or trade into the next place value for adding and borrow or trade down to the lower place value when subtracting if they need to. Hopefully this will help you to understand our 2<sup>nd</sup> grade math curriculum better.

# Tips for completing the Math Daily Practice of Problems or DPP's

Make a picture that shows how you are solving the math problem.

Strategies for Adding/Subtracting

1. Draw a picture of groups with labels and numbers. Include a number sentence



2. Make a numberline. Label what number you started on and what number you stopped on. Use an arrow to show which way you moved and what number you added on or subtracted. Include a number sentence

Writing about your Strategy or Picture

1. Include **number words** to describe each group of pictures or each step in your strategy you used. Use word like **First**, **Next**, **Then** and **Last** to help write about what you did.
2. Include the math operation words of **subtracting** or **adding** in telling how you found your answer.
3. Make sure to tell what answer you found in your final sentence.