

# MENTAL COMPUTATION STRATEGIES

Automatic recall of number facts are explicitly taught and developed in a meaningful way through Number Talks. They are an essential aspect of efficient mental computation and strategies for recalling addition number facts and the related subtraction facts need to be efficient.

## SUBITISE

Sometimes you do not need to count. You just suddenly know how many in a group. Try subitising—it's fun!

How many fish in the tank?

Did you just know without counting?

How many fish in the tank?

Did you just know without counting?

## DOUBLE

Sometimes you do not need to count. Knowing your doubles can help you to add. Try doubling—it's fun!

How many dots on this domino?

Did you know that double 3 is 6?

How many dots on this domino?

Did you use a double?

## COUNT ON

Sometimes you do not need to count all. You can count on from the first number.

How many dinosaurs altogether?

Start at 4 and count on:

**4 5 6 7**

How many dinosaurs altogether?

Start at 6 and count on:

**6 7 8**

## RAINBOW FACTS

Sometimes you do not need to count. Using rainbow facts can help you add. Try using rainbow facts—they're fun!

0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

Add these two numbers.

Did you use a rainbow fact?

Add these two numbers.

Did you use a rainbow fact?

## TURNAROUNDS

Sometimes you do not need to add on from the first number. A turnaround can make the addition much easier.

When you are adding 2 and 4,

do a turnaround

and count on from 4.

**4 5 6**

The answer is 6.

How many blocks altogether?

Did you use a turnaround?

## FRIENDLY NUMBERS

It is easy to add on to a 10, because 10 is a friendly number. So are 20, 30, 40 and so on.

Adding 10 and 6 is easy, because 10 is a friendly number.

**10 + 6 = 16**

How do friendly numbers make this addition easy?

**40 + 6**

10 + 7 = 17      60 + 2 = 62

20 + 5 = 25      70 + 3 = 73

30 + 3 = 30      80 + 4 = 84

50 + 9 = 59      90 + 7 = 97

## NEAR DOUBLE

Sometimes you do not need to count. Knowing near doubles can help.

How many pips on these two cards?

4 + 5 is near to double 4. Just say "double 4 is 8 and 1 more is 9". Double 5 is near to 4 + 5 as well. Just say "double 5 is 10 and take away 1 is 9".

How many pips on these two cards?

Did you use a near double?

