Practicing the Addition Combinations (page 1 of 2)

Dear Families,

To develop good computational strategies, students need to become fluent with the addition combinations from 1 + 1 to 10 + 10, often known as addition "facts." In third grade, students are expected to review and practice all of the combinations up to 10 + 10, which they studied in second grade.

As they review, students are identifying the combinations they still need to practice. They record the combinations they are still working on and write clues to help them learn those combinations. Students use a combination that they know, which is close to the combinations they are solving, and then adjust to find the sum. Here are some examples:

7 + 8 = 8 + 7 = **Clue:** 7 + 7 + 1	Think: 7 + 8 is one more than 7 + 7. 7 + 7 + 1 = 15
5 + 8 = 8 + 5 = **Clue:** 8 + 2 + 3	Think: Add 5 in 2 parts: 8 + 2 = 10 10 + 3 = 13
6 + 7 = 7 + 6 = **Clue:** 7 + 7 − 1	Think: 7 + 6 is one less than 7 + 7. 7 + 7 − 1 = 13

(continued)

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As they practice using the clues, students gradually come to know the combinations that are difficult for them. To help your child learn the addition combinations ("facts"), use the following strategies:

- Ask your child which addition combinations he or she is practicing.
- Find out what clues your child has chosen to help learn these combinations.
- Choose two or three of the combinations at a time to review together.