

## Grades K-2 Number Talk Resources

### Number Talks in the Primary Classroom

The 5–15 minute daily routines in this [tried-and-true book](#) by Kathy Richardson and Sue Dolphin help you learn how to use models, questions, and experiences to support children's mathematical development and develop computational fluency.

**Rekenreks** are a staple visual number talk tool. There are so many possibilities for tasks, but here are some suggestions:

1. *Show a number on the Rekenrek and ask: How many? How do you know? How many more to make 10 (or the next ten)?*
2. *Show a number and ask students to add or subtract an amount and ask: How did you find the sum/difference?*
3. *Show an array in rows of 2, 5, or 10 and ask: How many? How do you know?*

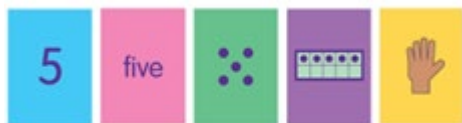
[20 Bead Magnetic Demonstration Rekenrek](#)  
[100 Bead Demonstration Rekenrek](#)

**Dot Cards** are another gold standard for primary grades Number Talks.

Show a card and ask: How Many? How do you know? Can you find the total another way? On whiteboards, challenge students to represent the total in as many different ways as possible; this routine is called, “*How Many Ways*.” Show more than one card and have students find the sum or tell which card has a greater total (or less). Invite them to share how they know.

Check out these fun, ready to go, “twists” on the idea of “Dot Cards” for Number Talks:

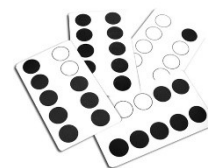
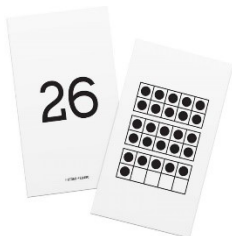
### 1-20 Activity Cards



### Subitizing Activity Cards



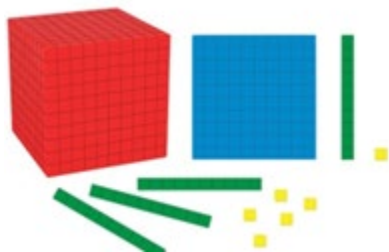
### Ten Frames



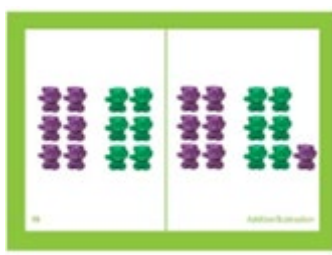
[1-50 Ten Frame Cards](#)  
[Ten Frame Activity Cards](#)  
[Unifix Magnetic Ten Frames](#)



[Place Value Cards](#) have been a favorite in my class for ages! They can be used to explore place value ideas in Number Talks! Students can consider the meaning of the digits, find 1/10/100 more or less, and compare or order numbers.

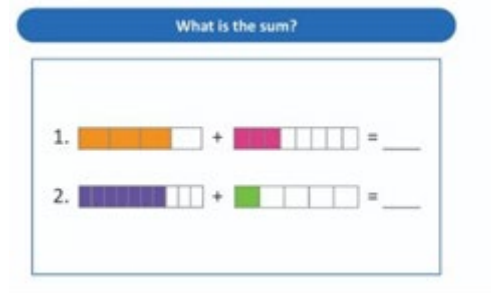


When displaying [Place Value Disks](#) or [Base Ten Blocks](#) for Number Talks, consider showing representations of numbers that include more than 9 of any unit, or do not group the units together, or arrange the units in a non-standard order. For a fun twist, display two different representations and ask them if this was money (or chocolate), which one would you rather have? Why?

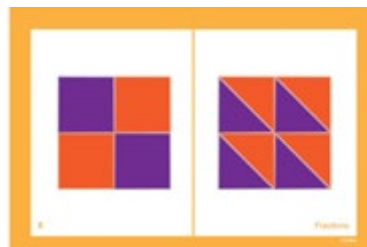


Our new, colorful [Same But Different Cards](#) by Sue Looney will inspire dynamic mathematical conversations during visual Number Talks. Using photographs, illustrations, and equations, each card features a content-rich image comparison. Ask students to explore the math by asking, “What is the same? What is different?”

## Grades 3-6+ Number Talks Resources



Our new [Math Activators](#) build students' confidence with fraction, decimal, and integer concepts with manipulatives, engaging visual models, and reasoning. Students develop a deeper understanding of a concept by following a sequence of activators that start with a concrete model and end with abstract reasoning. In five to ten minutes teachers can present the activator, allow time for student discussion in pairs or small groups, and then facilitate a whole-class discussion.



[Same But Different Cards](#) will inspire dynamic mathematical conversations about fractions, multiplication & division, and place value. Using photographs, illustrations, equations and more, each card features a content-rich image comparison. Ask students to explore the math by asking, "What is the same? What is different?" about the two images.



Adding, subtracting, comparing, or finding equivalent fractions Number Talks can be done with [Fraction Tiles](#) or [Pattern Blocks](#). These colorful magnets represent fractions in two different ways: circular to show groups, and rectangular to show lengths as parts of a whole. Additional Magnetic Fraction Tiles sets are available including percentages and decimals, they are all color-coded so they can be used to show equivalences.



**Place Value Cards** have been a favorite in my class for ages! They can be used to explore place value ideas in Number Talks - students can consider the meaning of the digits, find an amount more or less, and compare or order numbers.



When displaying **Place Value Disks** for Number Talks, consider showing representations of numbers that include more than 9 of any unit, or do not group the units together, or arrange the units in a non-standard order. For a fun twist, display two different representations and ask them if this was money (or chocolate), which one would you rather have? Why?