MATH SUPERPOWERS: Building for Success



Based on the work of Joan A. Cotter, Ph.D.

Number Sense

- Confusion often due to vague understanding of what numbers mean and how they relate to each other.
- Attempt to solve with rote memorization.

$$7 + 6 = 13$$

$$7 - 6 = 1$$

$$7 \times 6 = 42$$

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2

Rote Memorization

- There are 390 math facts to memorize.
- Rote memorization is based on behaviorism.
- It needs frequent review and is high maintenance.
- Nearly impossible for those with special needs or learning challenges.
- Rote memorization decreases the joy of math.
- Makes applying learning more difficult.

3

Experience Counting Process

Because we're so familiar with numbers, 1, 2, 3, 4, and so forth,

A = 1

B=2

C = 3

D = 4

E = 5

Experience Counting Process

G <u>D</u>

Does this overwhelm you? Create anxiety?

This is what our children experience....

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1

Math Super Powers

- **Subitizing** is the rapid and confident recognition of quantity without counting.
- Need grouping in 5s and 10s.

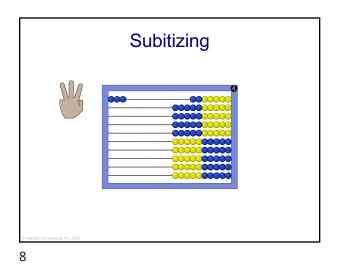


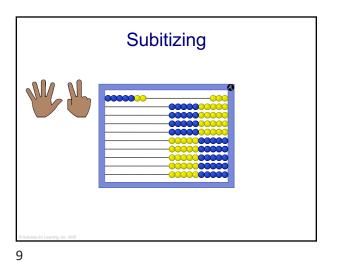


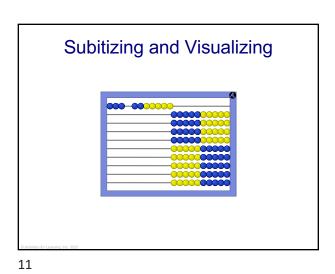
Math Super Powers

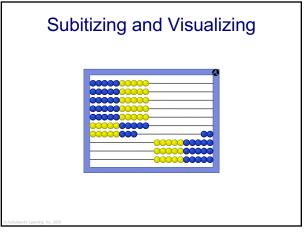
- **Subitizing** is the rapid and confident recognition of quantity without counting.
- Need grouping in 5s and 10s.
- **Visualizing** is the ability to form a mental image; to imagine; to see it in your mind.
- **Strategies** are a way to learn a new fact or to recall a forgotten fact; creates organization.
- Visual representations = powerful strategies.

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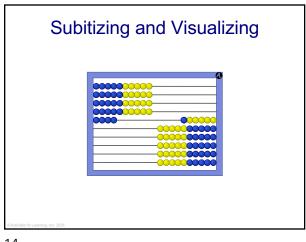


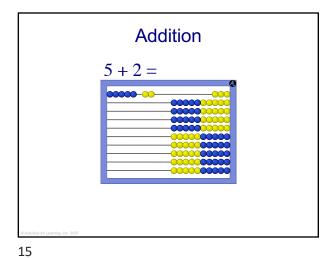


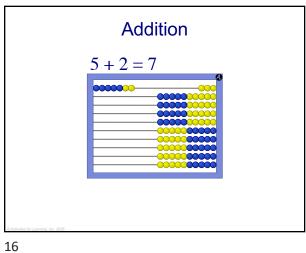


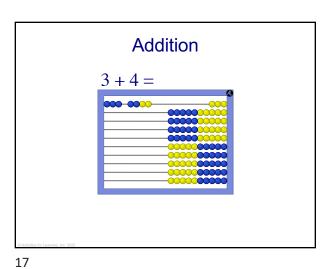


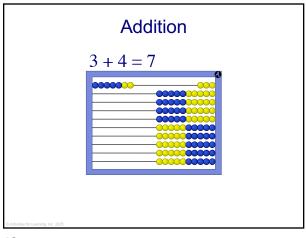
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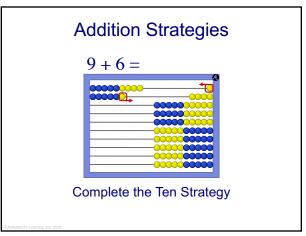


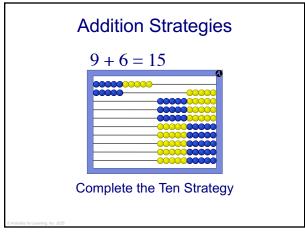


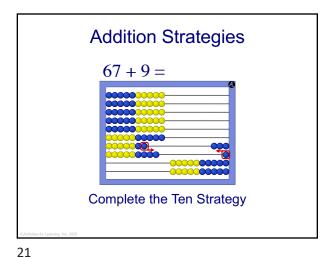


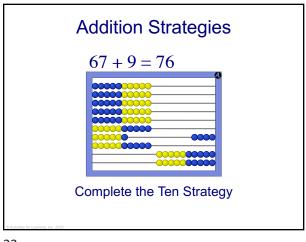


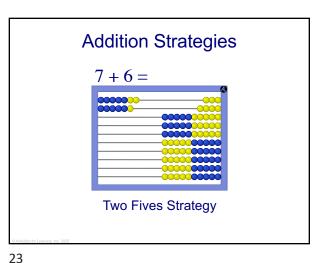


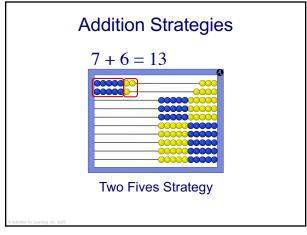


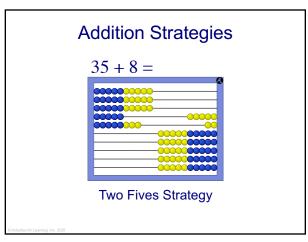


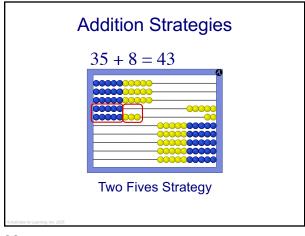


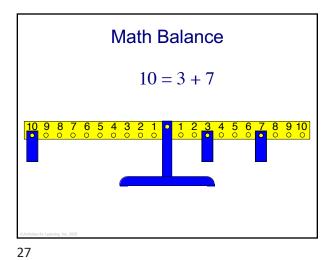


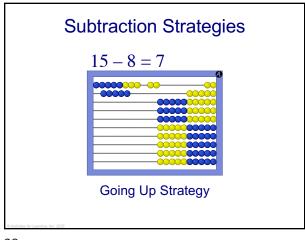


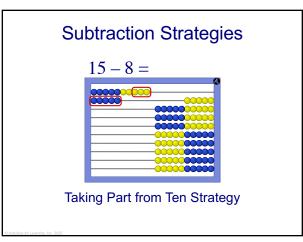




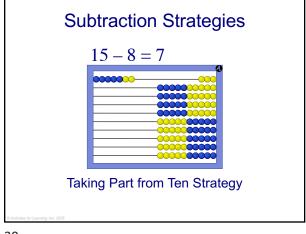


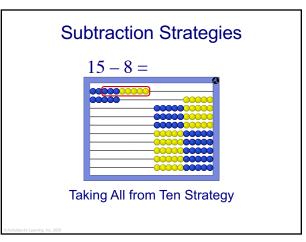


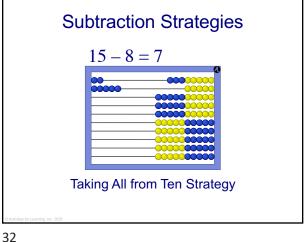




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Math Balance 17 - 9 = 8

Multiplication

- Multiplication has been the mathematical downfall of many students (and adults).
- It's the problem of memorizing the 100
- Multiplication is often taught as repeated addition.
- This gives a limited view of multiplication.
- An array in rows and columns, like this abacus, makes a better model.

Multiplication

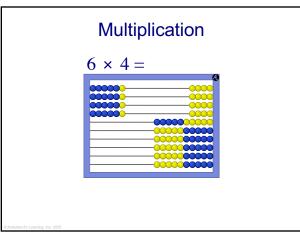
- There are different interpretations about the meaning of 6×2 .
 - 6 + 2: start with 6 and transform by adding 2
 - 6 2: start with 6 and transform by decreasing 2
 - 6 ÷ 2: start with 6 and transform it by dividing it into either 2 groups or groups of 2
- Therefore, to be consistent, 6×2 starts with 6 and transforms it by duplicating it 2 times.

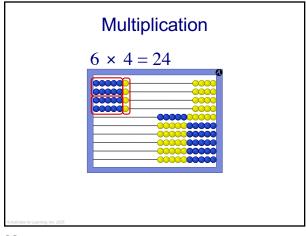
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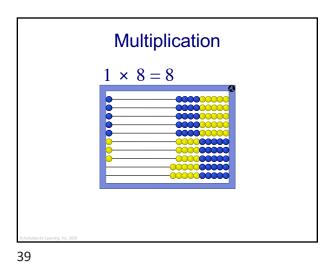
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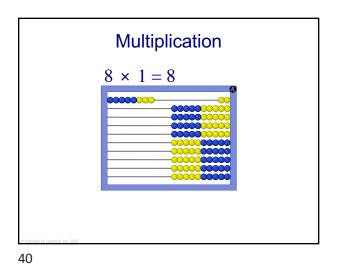
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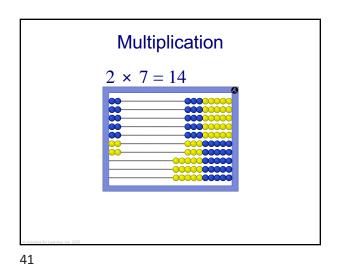
Multiplication $6 \times 2 = 12$



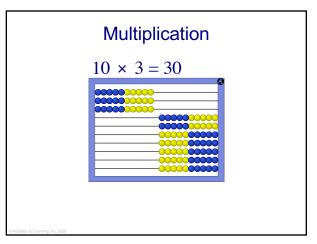


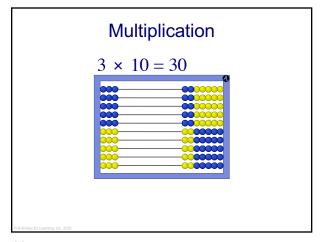






Multiplication $7 \times 2 = 14$





Multiplication

• In a 10 by 10 multiplication table, the commutative property reduces the number of facts from 100 to 55 facts.

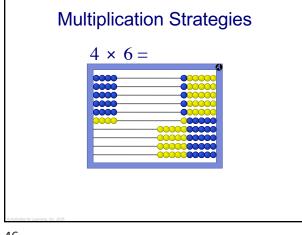


• Facts of 1s, 2s, and 10s are generally easy.

• Now there are only 28 facts left to learn!

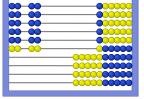
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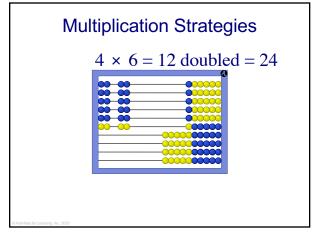
Multiplication Strategies

 $4 \times 6 = 2 \times 6$ doubled



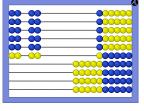
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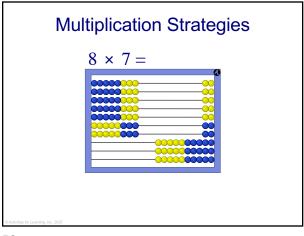


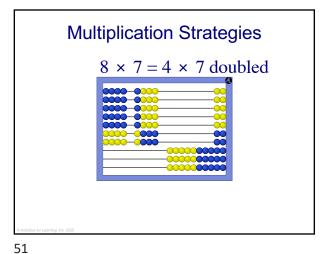
Multiplication Strategies

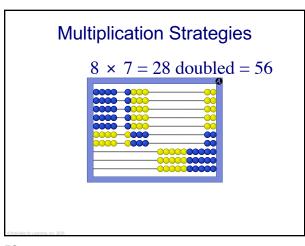
 $4 \times 6 = 24$

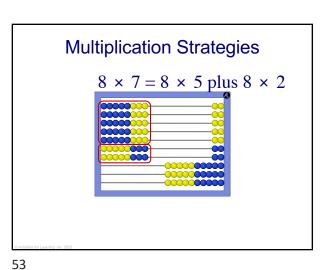


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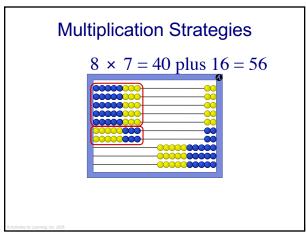








52



Multiplication Strategies

• Adults generally think in pictures.

• Children definitely think in pictures.

• This approach provides solid visualizable strategies.

Multiplication Strategies

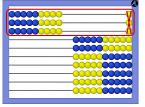
9 × 3 =

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56

Multiplication Strategies

 $9 \times 3 = 30 - 3 = 27$



57

Problem Solving

- A problem is not a problem if the solution is obvious.
- Don't have the child look for "key" words. There are 9 items in a box and we bought 8 boxes. How many items do we have altogether?
- Using "key words" as a problem solving strategy turns an opportunity to THINK into just another procedure to follow, masking understanding.

Problem Solving

- is NOT rote memorizing
- is NOT following rules blindly
- is NOT passive learning

60

61

Problem Solving

- Problem solving is:
- thinking carefully about the situation
 - discovering what is given
 - figuring out what is needed
 - and deciding on methods to get there

Problem Solving

- Japanese teachers discuss one problem in depth, rather than four problems superficially.
- They encourage multiple solutions.
- Wrong solutions are discussed.
- If an error isn't addressed, it will happen again. And again and again!

62

63

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Guided Discovery

- To encourage and guide the child to discovery. And to get them to think.
- Ask questions, encouraging the child to find the "trick" or "secret pattern".
- It is vitally important that children think about what they are doing and not be satisfied with memorizing a rule.
- This promotes critical thinkers!

Summary

- 5s and 10s are the foundation for **subitizing**.
- Subitizing is the foundation for visual representations.
- Visual representations strengthen **strategies**.
- Visual representations and strategies gives answers in a format that can be easily recalled.

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64

65

Summary

- These three components will give your child a new way of learning.
- No rote memorization needed.
- Guide your child to discovery.
- Develop your child's superpowers with subitizing, strategies, and visualization to build success!