

## 1st Grade Math: Adding 3 Numbers

**Objective:** Students will learn how to add three numbers together and use different strategies to simplify the process.

### What Does It Mean to Add 3 Numbers?

When you add three numbers, you are combining them to find out the total. For example, if you have 2 apples, 3 oranges, and 1 banana, you can add them together to find how many pieces of fruit you have in total.

- **Example:**

$$2 + 3 + 1 = 6$$

### How to Add 3 Numbers

To add three numbers, it helps to break the problem down into smaller steps:

1. **Step 1:** Add the first two numbers.
2. **Step 2:** Add the result to the third number.

**Example:**

- $4 + 3 + 2$

**Step 1:** Add the first two numbers:

$$4 + 3 = 7$$

**Step 2:** Add the result to the third number:

$$7 + 2 = 9$$

## Strategies for Adding 3 Numbers

### 1. Look for Numbers That Make 10

Sometimes, it's easier to add numbers that make 10 first.

**Example:**

- $5 + 6 + 4$

Find numbers that make 10:

$$6 + 4 = 10$$

Now add the last number:

$$10 + 5 = 15$$

### 2. Use Number Bonds

A number bond is a pair of numbers that add up to a certain value, usually 10.

**Example:**

- $3 + 7 + 5$

Use a number bond to make 10:

$$3 + 7 = 10$$

Then add the third number:

$$10 + 5 = 15$$

### 3. Add Two Smaller Numbers First

If two of the numbers are smaller, start with those to make it easier.

Example:

- $2 + 4 + 8$

Add the smaller numbers first:

$$2 + 4 = 6$$

Then add the bigger number:

$$6 + 8 = 14$$

### Practice Problems

1. Problem 1:

$$2 + 3 + 4 = ?$$

2. Problem 2:

$$6 + 5 + 3 = ?$$

3. Problem 3:

$$7 + 8 + 2 = ?$$

4. Problem 4:

$$9 + 1 + 5 = ?$$

## Word Problems with Adding 3 Numbers

**Example:**

- **Problem:** Maria has 3 red balloons, 2 blue balloons, and 5 green balloons. How many balloons does she have in total?

**Solution:**

$$3 + 2 + 5 = 10$$

Maria has 10 balloons in total.

## Summary

Adding three numbers is easy when you break the problem into steps. Look for numbers that make 10 or add smaller numbers first to make it simpler. Keep practicing, and you'll get faster and better at it!