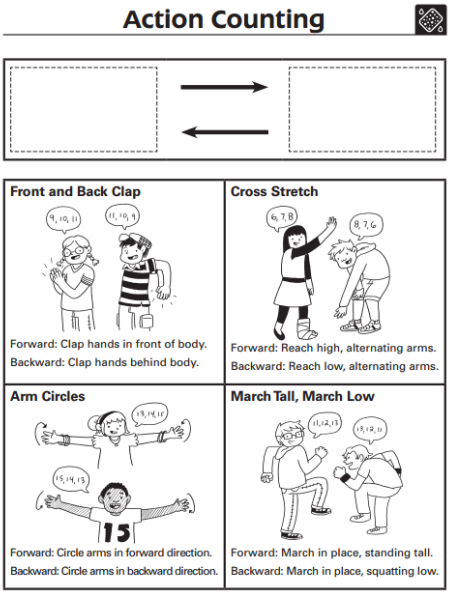
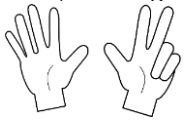
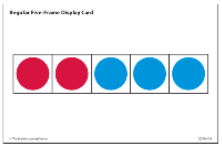
Number Sense in Early Elementary Math

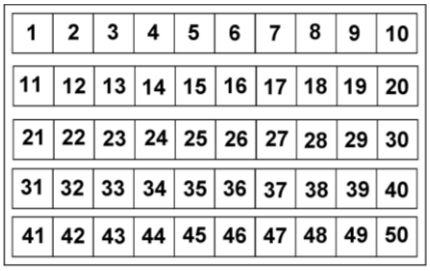
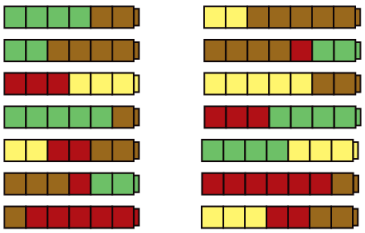
NCTM Nashville

Do First: What is 1 rule some elementary school teachers teach their students to help with the current grade level content, but "expires"?

What does it mean for a student to have number sense?

Strategies to Try

Strategy	How?	When?
Action Counting (Nimble with Numbers)		
Partner Number Building	• Walk around while the music plays • When it stops, find a partner • Goal is to make the target number in as many ways as possible • Example for Target 10: I hold up 5 fingers and say "5". My partner holds up 5 fingers and says "5 and 5 is 10." 	
10 Frames: Flash Attack	Flash a dot card. Students hold up either fingers or build with cubes. Flash the card again for kids to confirm.  	

Guess my Number	 Students ask questions and record on the 50's chart until the number is guessed.	
Cube Trains	 Students build trains equivalent to 2 different numbers (using 2 or 3 colors). Class writes the addition sentences and uses the cards to explore equivalence.	
Build a Number Line	 A string is posted on the board and students are given number cards to discuss and place on the number line.	

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