



February 10, 2011

Grade 1 Newsletter – Unit 6: Developing Fact Power

PURPOSE:

The main focus of Unit 6 is developing fact power. With frequent practice throughout the year, it is expected that most students will know many different simple addition and subtraction facts by the end of the year. Later in this unit, students will extend their time-telling skills by learning to tell time to the nearest 5 minutes and by representing the time in digital notation, as it appears on a digital clock.

SUGGESTIONS FOR ACTIVITIES AT HOME THAT WILL SUPPORT OUR UNIT:

- Have your child tell you a number story that fits a given number model, such as $3+5 = 8$.
- Let your child count out the money when paying at a store.
- Continue to make reference to the time on an analog clock. Many students are quite confident telling time to the nearest hour and half-hour, but would benefit from additional practice with quarter to and quarter past.
- Play a board game! There are many great board games that encourage mathematical thinking. This week we learned to play the game “Sequence Numbers.” This is a game where you are trying to make a line of 5 pieces, but need to solve addition and subtraction questions to do so. Scholar’s Choice is a store that carries a wide variety of games that would be suitable and fun. Continue regularly review the oral math facts that come home. Ideally, this should be done on a daily basis from Monday – Thursday, for only two minutes. The extra practice at home will support the work we are doing in class.

GAMES TO PLAY:

We will be learning to play the game **Addition Top-It**. You can easily play this game at home. Players turn over two cards and call out the sum. The player with the higher sum keeps all of the cards. The player with more cards at the end of the game wins.