

Learning Activity for The More or Less Expressway 2nd Grade

Objective: The students will be able to add and subtract 2 digit numbers together without regrouping using bundles of straws and Base 10 blocks.

Materials: plastic drinking straws, rubber bands, Base 10 blocks

THE MORE OR LESS EXPRESSWAY

Add 'em up, add 'em up, add 'em up
Take 'em away

Well, can you picture a race track
With a lot of fast cars?
Yeah, it's a super expressway
Where you race with the stars

You can add some cars to it
You can take some cars back
It gets more or less crowded
If you add or subtract

Like say you've got five cars
They're racing round and around
(Add 'em all up, add 'em all up)

Then you add five other cars
And now they're shaking the ground
(Add 'em all up, add 'em all up)

When you had only five cars
The track looked empty, but then
You added five more cars to it
And now you have ten

Add 'em and subtract 'em and you'll have more or less
Racing on The More or Less Expressway!

The More Or Less Expressway
The More Or Less Expressway
Add 'em up, add 'em up, add 'em up
Take 'em away

With all the cars that are racing
Now it's getting too loud
(Take 'em away, take 'em away)

Now you can take some away
And you'll have less of a crowd
(Take 'em away, take 'em away)

Say you start with fifteen,
But then you take away three
A twelve-car race
Is roarin' by, do you see?

Add 'em and subtract 'em and you'll have more or less
Racin' on the More or Less Expressway!

Chorus

[Announcer Calls:] "Gentlemen start your engines!"
[Announcer Calls] And they're off ...
[Spoken] Like what if you had 23 cars and you added 11 more?
How many cars do you have now?
[Kids chorus] 34!
[Spoken] Right. Now what if we added 20 more?!
[Kids chorus] Wow!
[Spoken] 34 plus 20 is...
[Kids chorus] 54!
[Spoken] Yeah! Imagine that! And then you decide that's crazy
and you take away 10 cars. You would have 54 minus 10, or ...
[Kids chorus] 44!
[Spoken] You've got it, 44 cars.
[Kids chorus] That's still too many!
[Spoken] I agree!
[SFX: Sound effect of brakes squealing]
[Spoken] That was a close one!

The More Or Less Expressway
The More Or Less Expressway

Add 'em and subtract 'em and you'll have more or less
Use your mental math and then you won't have to guess
Are you going to win? I think the answer is Yes!

Racing on The More Or Less Expressway
Racing on The More Or Less Expressway
Add 'em up, add 'em up, add 'em up
Take 'em away
More or Less Expressway
More or Less Expressway

Procedure:

- 1) Play the song.
- 2) Teacher models the numbers in the songs using straw bundles and Base 10 blocks, drawing and writing the equations.
- 3) Students, in pairs, will make up to ten 10 stick bundles. Be sure students have a place value work mat.
- 4) Replay the song. One partner will manipulate the straws and the other partner the Base 10 blocks.
- 5) Teacher will direct 2 additional examples of adding and subtracting 2-digit numbers. Students will call out their answers between each equation after they have placed the straws or Base 10 blocks on their mat.

Evaluation: Teacher observation. Students will create 5 2-digit addition and 5 2-digit subtraction problems to model with either straws or Base 10 blocks and record by drawing and writing an equation on a work mat to demonstrate the understanding of 2-digit addition and subtraction.