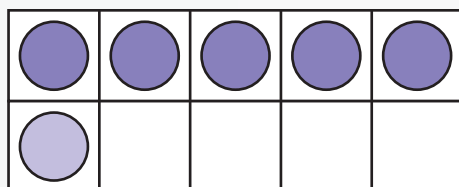# Dear Family,

This week your child is learning to find the numbers that make 6 and 7.

As discussed in an earlier letter, numbers can be thought of as being made up of combinations of other numbers. The number 6 can be made up of 2 and 4, 3 and 3, or 5 and 1, with the addends in either order. Learning to make numbers from combinations of other numbers will help your child prepare for adding and subtracting. For example, knowing that 2 and 4 make 6 lays the foundation for solving $2 + 4 = 6$.
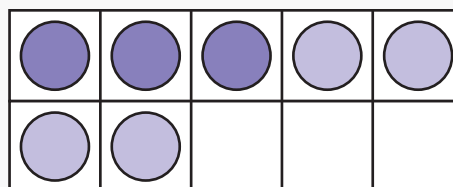
In class, your child will show different ways to make 6 and 7 with counters on a 10-frame. A 10-frame is a grid with 5 spaces in the top row and 5 spaces in the bottom row. Working with a 10-frame will help your child visualize numbers as amounts. It also helps to develop an understanding of how various numbers relate to 5 and 10, which will be important for later work with greater numbers.

Make 6 on a 10-frame.

Make 7 on a 10-frame.

5 and 1

3 and 4

Invite your child to share what he or she knows about making 6 and 7 by doing the following activity together.

NEXT

Making 6 and 7 Activity

Materials: pencil, paper, cup, 7 pennies (or other coins)

Help your child find ways to make 6 and 7 by doing the following activity.

- Write "Make 6" at the top of a sheet of paper and draw a two-column chart with the headings "Heads" and "Tails."

- Show your child a penny and explain that the side with the face is called "heads," and the other side is called "tails."

- Place 6 pennies in a cup. Have your child pour the pennies onto the table and sort them by heads and tails. He or she writes how many there are of each in the chart.

- Have your child put the pennies back in the cup and repeat pouring, sorting, and filling in the chart each time a new combination of 6 appears.

- Repeat until all the ways to make 6 have been found. Then draw a new chart titled "Make 7" and have your child do the activity with 7 pennies.

Make 6

Heads	Tails
4	2
1	5

Ways to Make 6

1 and 5
2 and 4
3 and 3
4 and 2
5 and 1

Ways to Make 7

1 and 6
2 and 5
3 and 4
4 and 3
5 and 2
6 and 1