



**Family Letter**

Dear Family:

Your child will be using special drawings of 10-sticks and circles to add greater numbers. The sticks show the number of tens, and the circles show the number of ones. When a new group of ten is made, a ring is drawn around it.



There are several ways for children to show the new group of ten when they add 2-digit numbers.

- Children can do the addition with a single total. The 1 for the new ten can be written either below the tens column or above it. Writing it below makes addition easier because the 1 new ten is added after children have added the two numbers that are already there. Also, children can see the 16 they made from 7 and 9 because the 1 and 6 are closer together than they were when the new ten was written above.

$$\begin{array}{r}
 27 \\
 + 49 \\
 \hline
 76
 \end{array}$$

new ten below

$$\begin{array}{r}
 1 \\
 27 \\
 + 49 \\
 \hline
 76
 \end{array}$$

new ten above

- Children can make separate totals for tens and ones. Many first-graders prefer to work from left to right because that is how they read. They add the tens ( $20 + 40 = 60$ ) and then the ones ( $7 + 9 = 16$ ). The last step is to add the two totals together ( $60 + 16 = 76$ ).

$$\begin{array}{r}
 27 \\
 + 49 \\
 \hline
 60 \\
 16 \\
 \hline
 76
 \end{array}$$

left to right

$$\begin{array}{r}
 27 \\
 + 49 \\
 \hline
 16 \\
 60 \\
 \hline
 76
 \end{array}$$

right to left

You may notice your child using one of these methods as he or she completes homework.

Sincerely,  
Your child's teacher



**COMMON CORE**

Unit 8 includes the Common Core Standards for Mathematical Content for Number and Operations in Base Ten 1.NBT.4 and all Mathematical Practices.