Family Note

Everyday Mathematics encourages children to use a variety of strategies to solve computation problems. Doing so helps children develop a sense for numbers and operations, rather than simply memorizing a series of steps.

We suggest that you give your child an opportunity to explore and choose addition strategies that he or she feels comfortable using. At some point you may want to share the method that you know from your own school experience. However, please allow your child some time to use his or her own methods before doing so.

Below are three examples of methods that your child might use to solve 2-digit addition problems.

Counting Up

Combining 10s and 1s

$$29 + 37 = ?$$

"My problem"

 $20 + 30 = 50$

"Add the 10s."

 $9 + 7 = 16$

"Add the 1s."

 $50 + 16 = 66$

"Put the 10s and 1s together. The answer is 66."

Making Friendly Numbers

Encourage your child to use a ballpark estimate as a way to check whether an answer to a computation problem makes sense. For example: $\ln 29 + 37$, 29 is close to 30 and 37 is close to 40. Because 30 + 40 = 70, a ballpark estimate is 70. The final answer of 66 is close to 70, so 66 is a reasonable answer. Your child can make a ballpark estimate before or after solving the problem.

Please return the second page of this Home Link to school tomorrow.

Addition Strategies (continued)

For each problem:

Unit

- Make a ballpark estimate.
- Solve the problem using any strategy you choose. Use words or pictures to show your thinking.
- Check to make sure your answer makes sense.

$$(1)$$
 34 + 59 = ?

$$(2)$$
 17 + 68 = ?

Ballpark estimate:

Ballpark estimate:

Strategy:

Strategy:

$$17 + 68 =$$

Choose one of the problems above. Explain your estimate to someone at home. Then explain how you checked to make sure your answer made sense.

Practice

Complete each number sentence to show the expanded form.