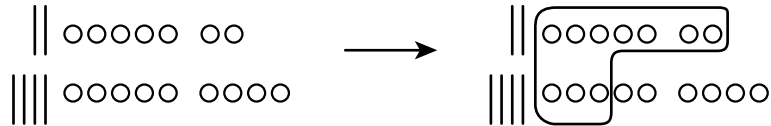




Dear Family:

Your child has been 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, it is circled.



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

1. 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.

$$\begin{array}{r} 27 \\ + 49 \\ \hline 1 \\ 76 \end{array} \quad \begin{array}{l} \text{new ten} \\ \text{below} \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 1 \\ 27 \\ + 49 \\ \hline 76 \end{array} \quad \begin{array}{l} \text{new ten} \\ \text{above} \end{array}$$

2. 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