Addition and Subtraction



Observing M⁵ in Action

This handout provides questions that help observers notice each of the M⁵ teaching practices. It includes questions that apply across ages. Use the questions that work best for the video you have chosen. The video clip may or may not include examples related to each question.

Mutual Learning

- What did (or might) the educator learn about each child during this experience?
- In what ways was the educator responsive to individual children? Consider how the
 educator integrated children's interests, languages, cultures and lived experiences,
 abilities, and emerging skills and knowledge into learning about addition or subtraction.

Meaningful Investigations

- In what ways was the experience based on children's questions, interests, or real-world situations?
- In what ways was the experience playful and open-ended? How did this support children to experiment with different approaches to solving a problem or answering a question?
- In what ways did the educator support children's thinking and problem-solving related to addition or subtraction?





Materials and Learning Environment

- What did you notice about the materials and learning environment?
- In what ways did the materials and learning environment offer opportunities for children to use addition or subtraction?

Math Vocabulary and Discourse

- What addition or subtraction vocabulary did the children or educator use?
- In what ways did the educator encourage children to notice and communicate about adding or subtracting (for example, by asking questions)?
- In what ways did the educator encourage all children to participate in math discussions related to adding or subtracting? Some ways children might participate in math discussions include questioning, describing, comparing, or explaining.
- In what ways did the educator support multilingual learners to communicate about adding or subtracting?





Multiple Representations

- What opportunities did the educator offer children to add and subtract in different ways?
- What other learning experiences or materials might the educator offer to continue to build children's understanding of adding or subtracting?