

Unit 6: Family Letter

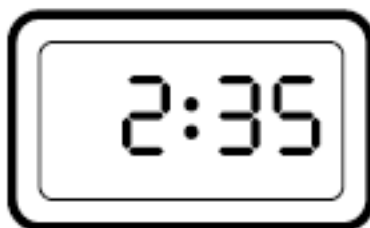


Developing Fact Power

Knowing the basic facts is as important to mathematics as knowing words by sight is to reading. Your child should begin to master many addition and subtraction facts by the end of the year.

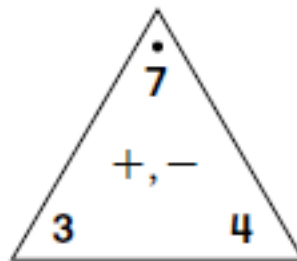
Learning the facts takes practice. It is not necessary to practice for a long time, but it is important to practice often. One good way to practice is to play the games described on the third page of this letter.

Later in this unit, children will extend their time-telling skills by learning to tell time to the nearest 5 minutes and by representing the time in digital notation, as it appears on a digital clock.



Math Tools

Your child will be using *Fact Triangles* to practice and review addition and subtraction facts. Fact Triangles are a "new and improved" version of flash cards; the addition and subtraction facts shown are made from the same three numbers, and this helps your child understand the relationships among those facts. The *Family Note* on Home Link 6-4, which you will receive later, provides a more detailed description of Fact Triangles.



Please keep this letter for reference as your child works through Unit 6.

Vocabulary

Important terms in Unit 6:

fact family A set of related facts linking two inverse operations, such as addition and subtraction. For example:

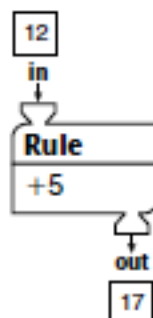
$$3 + 4 = 7$$

$$4 + 3 = 7$$

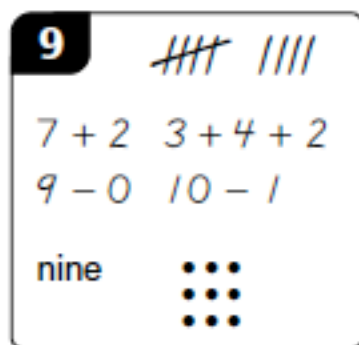
$$7 - 3 = 4$$

$$7 - 4 = 3$$

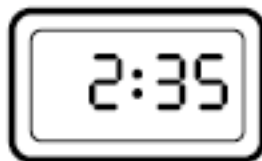
function machine An imaginary device that receives inputs and generates outputs. The machine usually pairs an input number with an output number by applying a rule such as “+5.”



name-collection box A diagram that is used for collecting equivalent names for a number.



digital clock A clock that shows the time with numbers of hours and minutes, usually separated by a colon.

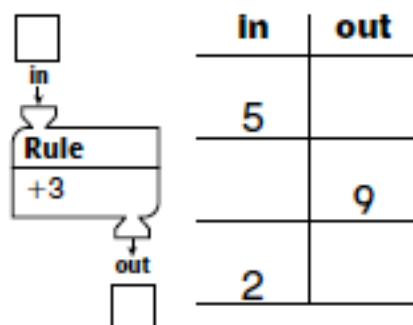


range The difference between the maximum and minimum in a set of data. For example, in the set below, the range is $36 - 28 = 8$.

middle value The number in the middle when the data are listed from smallest to largest. For example, in the data set below, 32 is the middle value:

28 28 31 32 33 35 36

“What’s My Rule?” problem A problem in which two of the three parts of a function (input, output, and rule) are known, and the third is to be found out.



Do-Anytime Activities

To work with your child on the concepts taught in this unit and previous units, try these interesting and rewarding activities:

- Using the Fact Triangles, cover the sum for addition practice. Cover one of the other numbers for subtraction practice. Make this brief and fun.
- Have your child tell you a number story that fits a given number model, such as $3 + 5 = 8$.
- Go to your local library and check out the book **12 Ways to Get to 11** by Eve Merritt, an entertaining book that presents addition facts.
- Fill in name-collection boxes. Begin with a number, such as 20, and find at least five equivalent names.

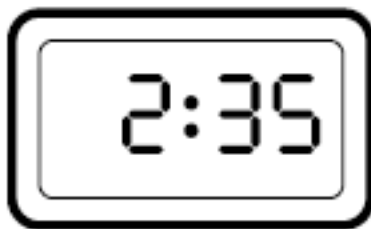


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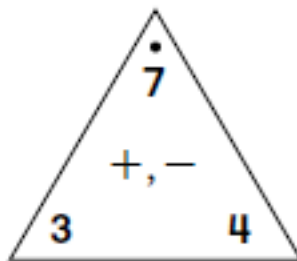
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