

THINKING WITH NUMBERS

Lesson Descriptions

Equalizing

These lessons will help children develop flexibility in their thinking. For example, if there are 6 on one side of the equals sign and 8 on the other, children are asked to figure out how they can make the numbers the same. They could add 2 to the 6 and make both sides 8; they could subtract 2 from the 8 and make both sides 6; they could take one from the 8 and give it to the 6 and make both sides 7; They could add 4 to the 6 and 2 to the 8 and make both sides 10; they could subtract 1 from the 6 and 3 from the 8 and make both sides 5.

Expected content outcomes include helping children learn:

- to understand that the numbers on each side of the equals sign are the same,
- to know that numbers can be represented in many ways, and
- to develop flexibility in thinking.

