

THINKING WITH NUMBERS

Lesson Descriptions

Choose An Efficient Strategy

After children have a repertoire of reasoning strategies, choosing an efficient strategy is an important skill. They may have multiple ways to solve the problem, but they need to choose one way that will be easy for them. There is no correct way. It simply has to be easy for them. For example, to solve the problem $9 + 5$, you could count on, you could use ten, you could use a known fact, $10 + 5 = 15$, then adjust, or you could change the problem to $10 + 4$. Any of these strategies that make the problem easier is a good strategic choice.

Expected content outcomes include helping children learn:

- to recognize they know many different ways to solve addition and subtraction problems mentally,
- to become proficient in using many different reasoning strategies, and
- to become proficient in strategically choosing an efficient strategy for them to add and subtract mentally.

