



Dear Family,

Beginning today, your child will be learning about place values in our number system and about how to read and write large numbers. In a few days, your child will learn about addition with large numbers. An important concept is that we need to add digits with the same place value. We must add ones to ones, tens to tens, and so on. The *Math Expressions* program encourages children to think about “making new groups” to help them understand place values.

We call the addition method below “New Groups Above” because the numbers that represent the new groups are written above the problem.

1. Add the ones:

$5 + 7 = 12$ ones
 $12 = 2$ ones + 10 ones,
 and 10 ones =
 1 new ten.

2. Add the tens:

$1 + 7 + 6 = 14$ tens
 $14 = 4$ tens + 10 tens,
 and 10 tens =
 1 new hundred.

3. Add the hundreds:

$1 + 1 = 2$ hundreds

Step 2 is harder because you need to add the 1 to 7 and remember 8 and then add 8 and 6.

$$\begin{array}{r} \textcircled{1} \\ 175 \\ + 67 \\ \hline 242 \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} \textcircled{1} \textcircled{1} \\ 175 \\ + 67 \\ \hline 242 \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} \textcircled{1} \textcircled{1} \\ 175 \\ + 67 \\ \hline 242 \end{array}$$

We call the following method “New Groups Below.” The steps are the same as those above, but the new groups are written below the addends.

It is easier to see the totals for each column (12 and 14) and adding is easier because you add the two numbers you see and then add the 1 ($7 + 6 + 1$).

1.
$$\begin{array}{r} 175 \\ + 67 \\ \hline 242 \end{array}$$

2.
$$\begin{array}{r} 175 \\ + 67 \\ \hline 242 \end{array}$$

3.
$$\begin{array}{r} 175 \\ + 67 \\ \hline 242 \end{array}$$

It is important that your child maintain his or her home practice with basic multiplication and division. If you need practice items or materials, please contact me.

Sincerely,
 Your child’s teacher