## Reppesenting \& Solving Ppoblems Involving Addition \& Subtraction \#1 Most Critical First Grade Skill

Our first graders need many, many opportunities to represent and solve addition and subtraction problems within 10 until they become effortless and automatic.

Initially, first graders must be able to count forward to 10/backward from 10, recognize numbers by name 0-10, and write numbers 0-10 effortlessly and automatically. They must understand addition as putting together and adding to, and understand subtraction as taking apart and taking from within 10 . They also must understand the meaning of the addition sign, minus sign, and equal sign.

## Gradual Stages of Math Facts to Automaticity

1. Use objects (counters, fingers, etc.) to represent and solve an addition or subtraction problem. (oral or written response)
2. Draw pictures (circles, tally marks, etc.) to represent and solve an addition or subtraction problem. (oral or written response)
3. Eyes-Only, solve an addition or subtraction problem (no objects or pictures needed) with increasing automaticity. (oral or written response)
4. Automaticity solve addition or subtraction problems effortlessly presented either written or read orally Mental Math. (no visuals needed)




