

Dot Addition to 10

Number of Students: Small groups (Variation: Pairs)

Materials:

- 1 Set Subitising cards (2 collections, 1-5) per group or pair
- (Optional) 1 minute sand timer

Preparation:

Sufficient copies of card sets need to be photocopied / printed.

Card sets need to be laminated and cut – totals can be written on the backs of cards with a marker for paired student activity.

How :

The teacher flashes each card (around 2 seconds) to the group then asks different students to say how many dots were on the card, and how they worked it out. Students should be encouraged to use their number facts knowledge. For example, if students should know that two dots and three dots make five, they should also know that two dots and four dots makes one more than five, that is six.

Variation:

Once they have gained some confidence, students can work in pairs and take turns to 'flash' (show for about two seconds) the cards to each other. A one minute timer can be used and the total of correct answers recorded (the total number of dots can be written on the back of the card to assist the person 'flashing'). Students can be encouraged to try to beat their previous scores.

It is important that this activity continues to be modelled by a teacher with a small group or the whole class at regular intervals and that students are given a chance to explain or discuss personal strategies, in order to help students expand and consolidate their strategies.