

Maya's Marble Collection



Figure 1: A child sitting cross-legged on a wooden floor surrounded by marbles in two colors

Numbers can be used for counting and comparing quantities. Addition and subtraction can be investigated within 100. How many marbles did she have altogether? A sum can be composed in multiple ways. Ten and three more. Then she added the red ones. Ten and four more. "I can add them different ways," Maya said to herself. She grouped ten blue with ten red. That made twenty. Then she had three blue and four red left. Three and four made seven. So twenty (ten blue plus ten red) and seven (three plus four) made twenty-seven marbles total. Her friend Kai watched. "Can you show me another way?" he asked. The order in which more than two numbers are added does not affect the sum. "Ten blue and ten red again. That is twenty. Then I add three blue and four red. That makes seven more. Twenty and seven makes twenty-seven marbles total."

Words to know

- **altogether:** added together to find the total

- **groups**: collections of things put together
- **sum**: the answer when you add numbers

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