

Maya and the Garden

Maya planted seeds in her garden. She put 20 seeds in one row and 30 seeds in another row. How many seeds altogether?

Twenty plus thirty equals fifty. Maya counted on her fingers.

Her friend Kai helped. Kai planted 10 more seeds. Now they had fifty plus ten equals sixty seeds.

"Does the order matter?" asked Maya. "If we counted thirty first, then twenty?"

Kai nodded. "Thirty plus twenty still equals fifty. The answer stays the same."

They watered all sixty seeds together. In a few weeks, sixty green shoots pushed through the soil. Their garden grew from adding and adding again.

Words to know

- **sum:** the answer when you add numbers together
- **addends:** the numbers you add together
- **altogether:** all of something counted as one total

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