

Fact Families

Four related addition and subtraction facts like those shown below are known as a “fact family”.

$$5 + 3 = 8$$

$$3 + 5 = 8$$

$$8 - 3 = 5$$

$$8 - 5 = 3$$

When children know any one of these number facts, they can use that information to figure out the other three facts. For example, a child who has learned the fact $5 + 3 = 8$, they can figure out $3 + 5$, $8 - 3$ or $8 - 5$.

Making Fact Families

Materials: Fact family cards (2 pages)

Use fact family cards from one of the sheets only.

Two players (A and B) each select a card and place it face-up in front of them. The cards must not be from the same fact family. The remaining cards are mixed together and then placed face down in a stack.

Players take turns repeating these steps:

Turn over the top card.

If the card shows a number fact from your fact family, leave it face up. If not, place the card at the bottom of the pile.

The winner is the first player to complete a fact family by collecting all four cards. In the previous example that would be $5 + 3 = 8$, $3 + 5 = 8$, $8 - 3 = 5$, $8 - 5 = 3$.

As students are comfortable, join fact family cards from both sheets and play the game.

Variation:

Players collect two fact families each. (If using both sets of cards, players collect two, three, or four families each).

Identifying a Missing Fact

Materials:

Fact Family Cards (2 pages)

Using one page at a time, ask your child to sort the cards to make four fact families.

Ask your child to look away while you turn over one card in each family. If your child always places the addition facts first, you could also reorder the cards within some of the families.)

Ask your child to look at each family, figure out the missing number fact, and then turn over the card to check.

When students are comfortable, use fact family cards from both pages.

Name

Date



Fact Family Cards



$$4 + 3 = 7$$

$$5 + 2 = 7$$

$$3 + 4 = 7$$

$$2 + 5 = 7$$

$$7 - 3 = 4$$

$$7 - 2 = 5$$

$$7 - 4 = 3$$

$$7 - 5 = 2$$

$$5 + 3 = 8$$

$$4 + 2 = 6$$

$$3 + 5 = 8$$

$$2 + 4 = 6$$

$$8 - 3 = 5$$

$$6 - 2 = 4$$

$$8 - 5 = 3$$

$$6 - 4 = 2$$

Name

Date



More Fact Family Cards



$$6 + 3 = 9$$

$$5 + 4 = 9$$

$$3 + 6 = 9$$

$$4 + 5 = 9$$

$$9 - 3 = 6$$

$$9 - 4 = 5$$

$$9 - 6 = 3$$

$$9 - 5 = 4$$

$$7 + 3 = 10$$

$$6 + 2 = 8$$

$$3 + 7 = 10$$

$$2 + 6 = 8$$

$$10 - 3 = 7$$

$$8 - 2 = 6$$

$$10 - 7 = 3$$

$$8 - 6 = 2$$