

This webinar guide is designed for use by instructional leaders and professional learning communities or as a self-paced study to explore Additive Thinking in Elementary Mathematics.

“When relationships are the focus, there are far fewer facts to remember.”

- (Cathy Fosnot, 2007)

**Full Webinar:** 59:32 minutes

Start Times

Big Idea 1: 7:49

Big Idea 3: 27:49

Exemplars: 37:19

Learning Guide: 48:41



**Synopsis:** This webinar provides an overview of additive thinking, focusing on the different strategies for addition and subtraction in the elementary years.

## Key Understandings

Additive thinking is:

- A capacity to work flexibly with the concepts, strategies and representations of addition and subtraction
- Going beyond memorization of basic arithmetic skills
- The means to communicate additive understanding effectively in a variety of ways

## Instructional Practices

- Students benefit from thinking flexibly. They need to see that:
  - $9 + 4$  is the same as  $10 + 3$
  - $76 - 38$  is the same as  $78 - 40$
- Different strategies are available like:
  - Making 10
  - Using doubles
  - Using the commutative property
- Different tools are beneficial to different students:
  - Base Ten Blocks
  - Ten Frames
  - Number Lines
  - Math Racks

## Questions for Discussion

- Can you find more than one way to add 18 and 37?
- How do we help students to better communicate their strategies?

## Reflection

- How might you know if your students have a solid understanding of additive thinking?
- What am I already doing in my classroom to support the development of additive thinking?
- What is one strategy I can add to my "classroom toolbox" to support the development of additive thinking?

## For more information

- Please visit our online learning guide at:
  - <http://learning.arpdc.ab.ca>
- Visit your local consortium's website to view upcoming learning opportunities, or to discuss customized follow-up possibilities.

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