Figure It Out

Ask your child to count the seals in each row. Ask, How many are there in each row and all together?

Give your child five paper clips. Work together to discover how many ways you can make five. Place one clip on the first seal, then ask your child to place a clip on each remaining seal in that row. Ask, How many did you add?

Write what was done as an equation. I put down 1 clip, and you added 4 clips. That’s 1 + 4 = 5.

Write out an equation like 1+1+3=5

Work together to show the equation above using paper clips. Then ask your child to create a new equation that equals five. Point out, You can add many different numbers together to get the same total!
There’s trouble on the court. In the episode Bad Luck Bears, Olive’s favorite basketball team has lost its spark (and a lot of games!). Olive and Otto discover it’s a very unlucky number that’s causing all the trouble. They must add, and add, and add, to eliminate the nasty numeral.

Sharpen your child’s knowledge of addition with these four cases.

**Case 1: What’s Missing?**

Present your child with an incomplete equation such as 5+_____ =10. Say, *Oh, now someone has swiped a part of the equation.* Use the “Odd Squad Ten” page and your paper clips and work together to figure out the missing number. Continue presenting number problems. You can even challenge your child to add three numbers together, for example, 6+3+___ = 10.

**Case 2: Adding Up To Ten**

Say, *Pssst… how many ways do you think we can get ten by adding two numbers together?* Use paper clips to demonstrate one way, such as 3+7. Then challenge your child to show you another way. Keep going until you and your child have found all the different ways. Then up the challenge, *How many ways do you think we can get to fifteen by adding three numbers together?*
The Odd Squad Ten

Case 3: Inventing an Update.

Present your child with an Odd Squad update, or problem. You might say, Olive had three basketballs, then a spaceship landed on her house and delivered two more basketballs. How many basketballs does Olive have now? Use the “Odd Squad Ten” page to figure it out. Now challenge your child to give you an update to solve.

Case 4: Race to Ten

Challenge your child to an addition game. Give each player a printout of the “Odd Squad Ten” page and 10 paper clips. Take turns rolling a dice and covering that number of seals with paper clips. The first person to get exactly to 10 wins! Now reverse it! Cover all 10 seals with paper clips, take turns rolling the dice and removing paper clips until you get exactly to 0.

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