

Using MAB up to 120 activities

Use the real classroom MAB set for these activities. The reference resource is there to check against, not to replace the real blocks.

1 Build the number

Given a number, children build it using the fewest real MAB pieces possible — flats, rods, and cubes.

"Which pieces do you need — how many flats, rods, and cubes?"

"Build it. Can any of your pieces be traded for a bigger one?"

2 Read the pieces

Given a built MAB model, children read off the number it represents.

"Count the flats, then the rods, then the cubes."

"What number do the pieces make altogether?"

3 Trade up past one hundred

Children build a number in the nineties, add more cubes, and trade up through the ten-and-hundred boundary.

"Build ninety-something with rods and cubes. Add a few more cubes."

"Can you trade cubes for a rod, or rods for a flat? What number do you have now?"

4 Non-example: pieces that should have traded

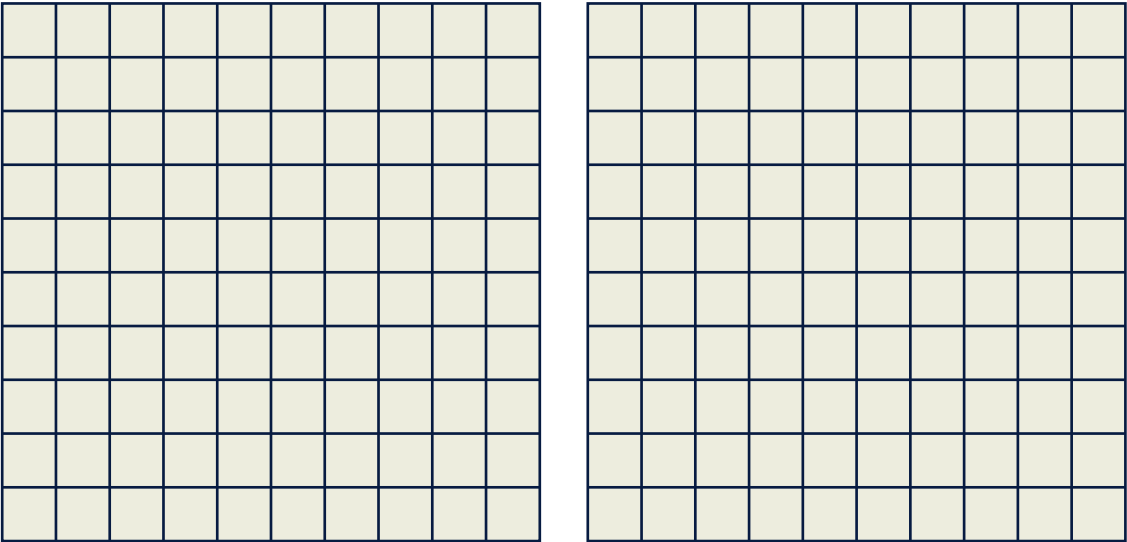
Someone builds 23 using two rods and thirteen loose cubes instead of trading ten of them for a third rod.

"Could any of these cubes be traded for a bigger piece?"

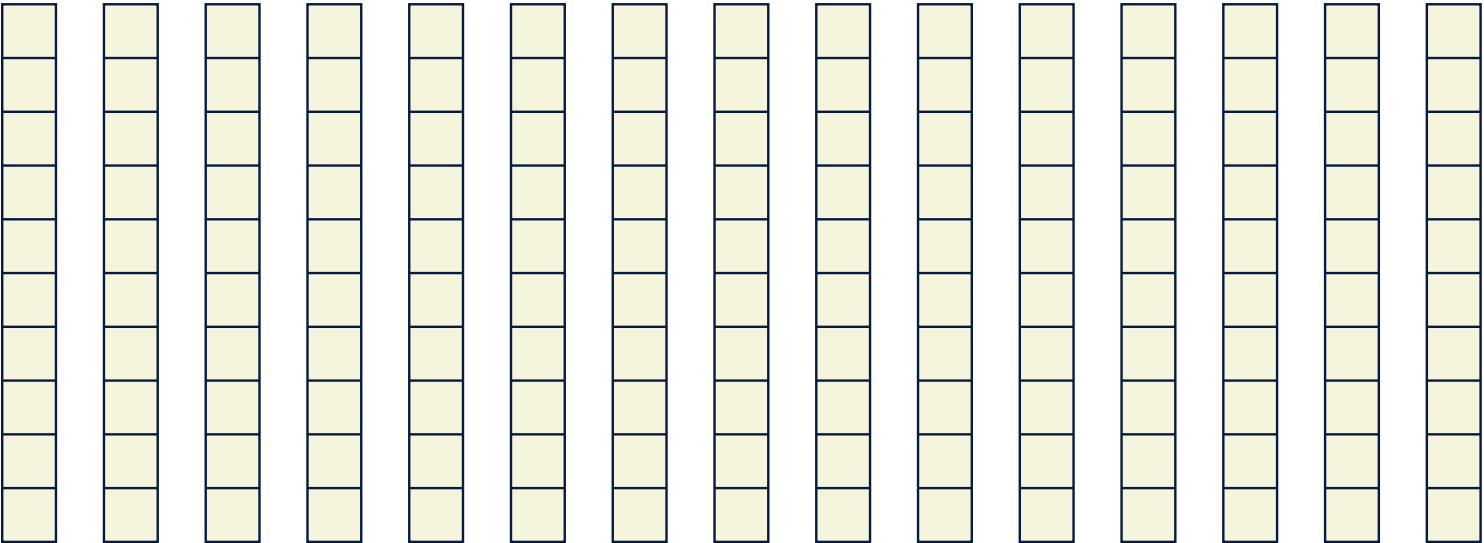
"What should the build actually look like?"

MAB pieces

Flats — worth 100 each



Rods — worth 10 each



Cubes — worth 1 each

