

Joining using bar models activities



1 Make two parts, then join

Give students a bar mat and counters. They put a part in each section, join the parts, count the whole, and say “__ and __ is __.”

“How many in this part? In this part? Join them — how many altogether?”

“Which are the parts? Which is the whole?”

2 Fill the bar to a given whole

Name a whole — for example seven, then a whole up to ten. Students make two parts that fill the bar to that whole, then read the two parts they used.

“Make the whole seven using two parts. What two parts did you use?”

“Join them to check — do your two parts make seven?”

3 Different parts, same whole

Keep the whole the same — say six — and find different pairs of parts that fill the bar: four and two, three and three, five and one.

“Can you fill the bar to six a different way? What two parts now?”

“Four and two, three and three — do they all make the same whole?”

4 Non-example: calling a part the whole

Put three and two in the bar, then point to the part of three and call it “the whole.” Ask whether the whole is just that one part.

“I pointed to three and called it the whole. Is the whole just one part?”

“The whole is both parts joined — how many is that?”

Joining bar mat

Print on A4 landscape. Laminate for repeated use. Put a part of counters in each section, join them, and read the whole. Then fill in: part and part is whole.



the whole

part	part
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part

part

AND

IS