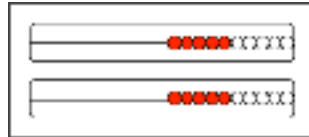


Helpful Hints for Parents Using the MathRack



The starting position for any work with the MathRack 20 is with all of the beads to the child's right. White to Right. The child works by pushing the beads to the left and reading the beads left to right.

Purpose:

The MathRack 20™ is a powerful manipulative that can help children:

- Understand the relationships: spatial, +/- 1 or 2, benchmarks of 5 and 10, part-part whole
- Develop efficient thinking strategies that will give them flexibility, accuracy and automaticity.
- Problem solving

Activities:

All activities should be first focused on understanding 1-5, then 6-10

- **Quick Images**-Briefly display an arrangement of beads and then cover it up to give children time to think about it. The child tells you what they saw and why they think that number is correct.
- **Show Me**- The child has the MathRack. The adult shows a finger pattern, dot card ,or ten frame cards for about 5 seconds and the child recreates the number using their MathRack. Discuss how they determined the number.
- **Problem Solving**- Children will use addition and subtraction within 20 to solve word problems involving situations of joining, separating, putting together, and comparing with unknowns in all positions. It is important to connect math to context to deepen students' understanding. Children should use the MathRack as a model for the problem given in context. For instance, use a bunkbed, double decker bus, 2 shelf bookshelf, as a context and students will show the problem on the MathRack and explain their thinking.

