



Number Builder – Beginning of the Month

**Grade 1
DECEMBER
or Month 4**

We put 5 counters into Number Builder's two pockets in September. We used 6 counters in October, and 7 counters in November. How many counters do you think we will be putting into our two pockets in December? (8)

What is one way we could place the 8 counters into the two pockets today? Who can think of another way? One more way? Let's make a list for all the ways you can think of.

The last way we thought of was 5 and 3. Who would like to put up two half-dominoes to match 5 and 3? What are the two addition facts we can say that go with our domino-halves?

Who can think of a take away subtraction fact that starts with 8 and takes away one of the domino-halves? Who can think of the other take away fact?

Who would like to share an adding story or a take away subtraction story to go with today's counters in the pockets?

When you look at the counters in the two pockets, which pocket has more? How many more are in the pocket of 5 than in the pocket of 3? How can you prove this? How many fewer counters are in the bottom pocket? How can we write this as a comparing subtraction number sentence? ($5 - 3 = 2$, "5 compared to 3 equals a difference of 2.")