

# K-2 IN FOCUS



A monthly eNewsletter brought to you by Mathematically Connected Communities (MC<sup>2</sup>)

AUGUST/SEPTEMBER 2017

## Welcome to the 2017- 2018 School Year!



First Weeks of School: Interviews and Creating Norms



Number Talks to do in your classroom



Classroom Video: How we can use it to grow our teaching this year



MC<sup>2</sup> Online: Resources to support our continued learning

## First Weeks of School



Everyone in MC<sup>2</sup> would like to wish you a wonderful start to the 2017-2018 school year! We so enjoyed learning with you this summer at [MathLab™](#) and Institute and are looking forward to our continued learning during the year.

We wanted to remind you about two things to have on the radar as you start the school year: the interviews we shared with you this summer and creating a Standards-Based Learning Environment (SBLE). If we want our students to grow along a math learning trajectory, we have to know where they currently are. This summer we looked at the *Counting & Conceptual Place Value (CPV)* learning trajectories in [MathLab™](#) and the *Structuring Number* trajectory in Institute and practiced interview assessments for these trajectories.

If you haven't already, you may want to look through your materials from this summer and develop a plan to interview your students.

Grade	Counting & CPV	Structuring Number
Kinder	Kinder Counting Interview	Recognition of Domino Patterns
1st	1st Grade Counting Interview	Partition Cards to 5
2nd	Bundles & Sticks Interview	Partition Cards to 10

Starting to build an SBLE is also an important thing to implement during the first weeks of school and co-creating norms with your students is a great way to start! In [MathLab™](#) we created class norms by:

- Engaging students in a collaborative, small group task
- Reflecting as a whole group about what made the work successful
- Recording student thoughts
- Continuing to revisit and refine

We will post examples of the interviews and some video on our K-2 Edmodo page. Not sure what Edmodo is? Keep reading.

## Number Talks



Number Talks is a math routine that is making a big difference in MC<sup>2</sup> classrooms! While the idea is simple, it's one of those "teacher moves" that takes practice and there are always ways to get better.

Every month on our Edmodo page we will have suggestions for Number Talks you can do at your grade level to support students in developing Counting, Conceptual Place Value, and/or Structuring Number. Our first offerings of Number Talk ideas will be posted on our K-2 Edmodo page. "What the heck is that?" Keep reading. :)

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## Videos: MathLab™ and Your Classroom



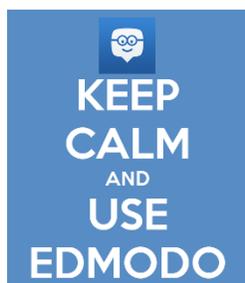
When we got your feedback this summer—at MathLab™ and at Institute—about what would be the most helpful resource to have in our online community, nearly everyone mentioned videos!

We are working on collecting videos from our work this summer and we'd like to encourage you to share videos from your classroom as well: interviews, Number Talks, parts of LES lessons you're trying, or anything that you think might help our learning community get stronger in our math teaching practice!

Videos will—yep, you guessed it—be posted to our K-2 Edmodo page, as well as our video permission form that we encourage you to give to your students for their parents to sign.

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## MC<sup>2</sup> Online Resources



We have so many things to learn and share this year in our K-2 group and we are going to do that using a platform called Edmodo. Imagine an interface very similar to Facebook, but it's private—you have to be invited and have a code to get in—and the focus is all about K-2 math teaching and learning. You can join this Edmodo page by clicking on the following link: <https://edmo.do/j/qt2xfi>. You will be asked to log in to your Edmodo account or create an account if you do not already have one. You can also log in using Office 365 or Google. An Edmodo Quick Tip Guide is also attached to this email to assist you in joining a group.

On Edmodo, we will be able to share videos, pictures, files, questions, ideas, and upcoming events. A monthly online event that you don't want to miss is **Office Hours with Megan**. The first one will be **September 11th from 3:15-4:45pm**. Directions for how to join are posted on our Edmodo page.

We will also be scheduling occasional online "get-togethers" where those who are interested can go online and share how our implementation is going. If there are things you're interested in learning more about with your colleagues—K-2 Math, SBLE, Number Talks, LES, Questioning & Discourse—let us know!