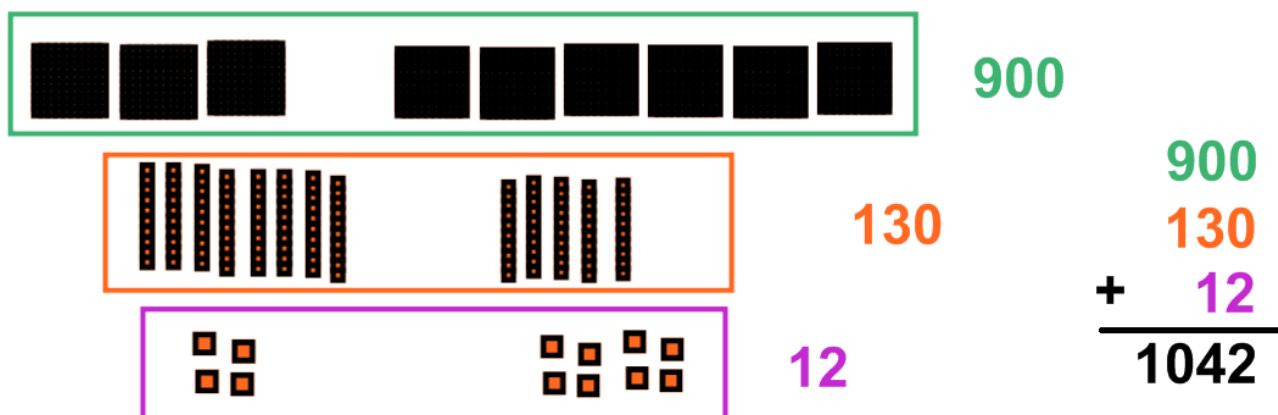


# Strategies for addition

In our math groups, students have learned a variety of strategies to add and subtract. Although we encourage students to learn and try all strategies, it is important for students to recognize and choose the strategy that works best for them. Below are examples of 3 different ways you can find the answer to the following question:  $384 + 658$

**Adding with base ten materials:** A great strategy for students who need a visual representation to continue developing their number sense!

1. Draw the base ten materials to represent the question
2. Begin by adding the thousands (if applicable), the hundreds, the tens and the ones.
3. Add all the sums together to find the final total.



**Decomposition:** Similar to using the base ten strategy, but without the visual.

1. Add the thousands (if applicable), the hundreds, the tens, then the ones.
2. Add all the sums together to find the total.

$$300 + 600 = 900$$

$$80 + 50 = 130$$

$$4 + 8 = 12$$

$$900 + 130 + 12 = 1042$$

**Adding left to right:** Similar to decomposition, but laid-out differently.

1. Add the thousands (if applicable), the hundreds, the tens, then the ones.
2. Add all the sums together to find the total.

$$\begin{array}{r} 384 \\ + 658 \\ \hline 900 \\ 130 \\ 12 \\ \hline 1042 \end{array}$$