



Elementary Mathematics Professional Learning

Number Talks



A **Number Talk** is a powerful activity where students work independently to solve a mathematical question, often without the support of manipulatives or writing materials. Students then explain their strategies for solving the question to the rest of the class.

A **Number String** is a connected set of questions in a Number Talk where each question builds upon the previous question, asking students to make connections and apply their understanding to new situations.



Number Talks' focus is on developing the following Mathematical Processes:

- Connections
- Reasoning
- Communication
- Mental Math and Estimation



Number Talks How To:

http://www.mathperspectives.com/pdf_docs/number_talks.pdf https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AAmLdZQCYtM

Number Strings How To:

http://numberstrings.com/what-is-a-number-string/



3 videos:

Talking About Math: Sharing Strategies (5:16 min)

"How To Learn Math for Teachers and Parents": Number Talks (15:18 min)

Math Perspectives: Number Talks (6:49 min)

"Students who spent more time on fewer problems and were asked to explain their procedures outperformed their more traditionally taught peers." (Heibert, J. and Wearne, D.) *Adding It Up, p. 191*

Articles Books Research

Website:

http://www.mathperspectives.com/num_talks.html https://www.tes.com/lessons/Q1KhUrEnPa_6wQ/number-talks 2-page Document:

What is the difference between a Lesson and a Number Talk?