Fun with Number Bonds
Addition and subtraction facts with number bonds
These are great activities to practice facts that are particularly tricky.

Materials: Choice of materials to create number bonds like: paper and markers, sidewalk chalk, paper plates in 2 sizes
Items to use as counters such as: pebbles, small toys, beans, cheerios, or candy
Paper and pencil to write number sentences

Directions if working on numbers 1 – 10:
- Choose a number between 1 and 10 and place that many items in the whole circle of the number bond.
- Then split the whole into 2 parts and move the items into the other circles.
- Then use pencil and paper to write all the number sentences.
- For example, if using 9 items split into 4 and 5 the possible number sentences are:
  - 4+5=9   5+4=9   9-4=5   9-5=4
  - Challenge your child to write or say all 4 number sentences.
- Then move the 9 items back into the whole circle and split them another way, such as 3 and 6 and try to write or say all the number sentences for that combination.
- Continue using 9 items until all combinations have been found.

Directions if working on numbers 1 – 20:
- Choose a number between 1 and 20 and place that many items in the whole circle of the number bond.
- Then split the whole into 2 parts and move the items into the other circles.
- Then use pencil and paper to write all the number sentences.
- For example, if using 14 items split into 6 and 8 the possible number sentences are:
  - 6+8=14   8+6=14   14-6=8   14-8=6
- Then move the 14 items back into the whole circle and split them another way, such as 13 and 1 and try to write or say all the number sentences for that combination.
- Continue using 14 items until all combinations have been found.

Examples:

	5+ 3 = 8	6 + 2 =8
	3 +5 = 8	2 + 6 =8

8 – 3 = 5	8 – 2 = 6
8 – 5 = 3	8 – 6 = 2

Drawing Number Stories

    Creating number stories is also a great way to build conceptual knowledge and a fun way for young children to practice facts too. Have your child select a number bond with a whole of up to 10 or 20. Then have them write the number bond and illustrate a number story for their number bond. They do not need to write the story out, just the number sentence. Example: They may draw 3 red boats and 2 yellow boats.   3 + 2 = 5

Challenge: Try having your child create 4 stories that correlate with the 4 possible number sentences.
There are 3 red boats and 2 yellow boats on the lake, how many are there all together?   3+2=5
There are 2 yellow boats on the lake and 3 red boats join them, how many are there on the lake now?   2+3=5
5 boats were on the lake, but the 3 red boats sailed away. How many boats are there now? 5-3=2
5 boats were on the lake, but the 2 yellow boats sailed away.   How many boats remain? 5-2=3

Sample number story