## Unit 1: Family Letter

## Home Link 1-4

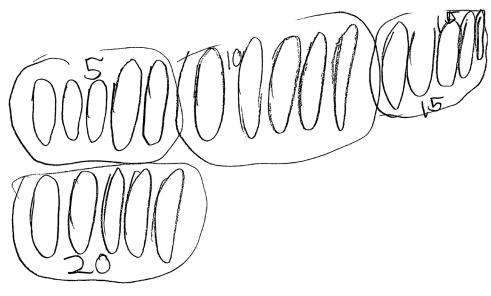
NAME

## **Open Response and Reengagement Lessons**

A two-day lesson in each unit of *First Grade Everyday Mathematics* is an Open Response and Reengagement lesson. In these lessons, children solve interesting problems using their own strategies and reasoning. On Day 1, children solve an open response problem—a problem with more than one possible strategy or solution. On Day 2, the class discusses children's work from Day 1 to "reengage" with the problem and learn more about the mathematics involved. Children then revise their work based on what they learn from the discussion.

These lessons are not assessments, but opportunities for children to solve approachable problems that require persistence. Children's work on Day 1 reveals both strengths and weaknesses, allowing the second day's discussion to focus on areas that need improvement. From these discussions, children find that learning from mistakes is a natural part of mathematical problem solving. Explaining their thinking and listening to the explanations of others builds children's confidence while allowing them to see that there is more than one way to solve a problem. This promotes creative thinking about solutions later on. Having an opportunity to revise their work helps children realize that they can be successful tackling hard tasks if they think about them and keep trying.

The open response problem in this unit asks children to count a group of objects and choose strategies, such as grouping by 2s or 5s, to ensure that they count accurately and efficiently.



Drawing of child's strategy for counting by 5s

These lessons continue work on problem solving that is central to *Everyday Mathematics* across all the grades. Ask your child to talk to you about the problems and his or her mathematical thinking throughout the year. Enjoy seeing your child become a confident problem solver!

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