## ACTIVITY 1.1 GAME: JUST RIGHT

Materials: About 20 problems on cards; Just Right game board, one per pair

Directions: Players have a stack of about 20 cards that each have a problem on them. Players take turns flipping over a problem and deciding which strategy is most appropriate for solving it, putting their marker on that strategy of the Just Right game board. For example, if an appropriate strategy to solve the problem is Compensation, the student describes how to solve the problem using compensation. Having correctly talked through the strategy, the player gets to place a marker on one of the Compensation spaces. The first player to place four markers in a row on the game board wins.

Note: In this example, the game focuses on both addition and subtraction. Problems to feature might include 302-297 = $\qquad$ , $245+361=\ldots, 500+97=\ldots$, and $499+237=\ldots$, among many others. This game board would be used after the strategies on the board have been taught, but the board can be modified to show only two or three strategies, focusing on addition only, for example. Students may be tempted to use inefficient strategies in order to get four in a row. To counter this, students can be required to record the equations and the strategy they used. Just Right can be played with decimals, fractions, and integers.

## JUST RIGHT

Directions: Flip over an expression. Decide which strategy is "just right" for the expression. Place a marker on the strategy. Be the first to get four markers in a row (horizontally, vertically, or diagonally).

| Compensation | Count On/ Count Back | Make Tens (or Hundreds) | Partial Sums or Differences | Make Tens (or Hundreds) |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Partial Sums or Differences | Think Addition | Compensation | Count On/ Count Back | Compensation |
| Count On/ <br> Count Back | Standard Algorithm | Make Tens (or Hundreds) | Think Addition | Partial Sums or Differences |
| Standard Algorithm | Make Tens (or Hundreds) | Count On/ Count Back | Compensation | Think Addition |
| Compensation | Count On/ Count Back | Make Tens (or Hundreds) | Standard Algorithm | Partial Sums or Differences |

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