

### COAT HANGER DRILL-Addition/subtraction idea

Wire coat hangers can help second graders learn the addition and subtraction facts. You can use strips of colored paper about  $3\frac{1}{2}$  "x  $\frac{3}{4}$ " (or clothes pins) and looped several of them over the bottom edge of a hanger, stapling them at the bottom edge. They move freely along the hanger. If there are seven strips on a hanger, for example, a child can separate the loops into groups of 3 and 4, 5 and 2, and so on, or he can put all seven together and then pull 3 or 4 away to see the answers for the subtraction facts. You can make a hanger for each of the facts.

### Cops and Robbers

Here is a game to strengthen understandings in subtraction. If the combinations up to twelve, for example, are being studied, twelve objects (pencils, crayons and so on) are put on the table. One player who is the "cop" closes his eyes while a "robber" removes as many of the objects as he chooses and holds them out of sight. The cop is called and, by looking at those left, determines how many were stolen. When he announces the number, the robber produces the objects and the team checks for the accuracy. If he is right he becomes a robber. If he gives the wrong number of stolen objects he must take one more turn as the cop.

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