Types of Addition and Subtraction (Grades K - 2)

	Result Unknown	Change Unknown	Start Unknown
Add to	Two bunnies sat on the grass. Three more bunnies hopped there. How many bunnies are on the grass now? 2 + 3 = ▢ [K]	Two bunnies were sitting on the grass. Some more bunnies hopped there. Then there were 5 bunnies. How many bunnies hopped over to the first two? 2 + ▢ = 5 [1]	Some bunnies were sitting on the grass. Three more bunnies hopped there. Then there were 5 bunnies. How many bunnies were on the grass before? ▢ + 3 = 5 [2]
Take from	Five apples were on the table. I ate 2 apples. How many apples are on the table now? 5 – 2 = ▢ [K]	Five apples were on the table. I ate some apples. Then there were 3 apples. How many apples did I eat? 5 – ▢ = 3 [1]	Some apples were on the table. I ate 2 apples. Then there were 3 apples. How many apples were on the table before? ▢ – 2 = 3 [2]
	Total Unknown	**Addend Unknown[1]**	**Both Addends Unknown[2]**
Put together/ Take apart	Three red apples and 2 green apples are on the table. How many apples are on the table? 3 + 2 = ▢ [K]	Five apples are on the table. Three are red, and the rest are green. How many apples are green? 3 + ▢ = 5, 5 – 3 = ▢ [1]	Grandma has 5 flowers. How many can she put in her red vase and how many in her blue vase? 5 = 0 + 5, 5 = 5 + 0 5 = 1 + 4, 5 = 4 + 1 5 = 2 + 3, 5 = 3 + 2 [K]
	Difference Unknown	**Bigger Unknown**	**Smaller Unknown**
Compare (*More* version)	(“How many more?” version): Lucy has 2 apples. Julie has 5 apples. How many more apples does Julie have than Lucy? [1]	(Version with more): Julie has 3 more apples than Lucy. Lucy has 2 apples. How many apples does Julie have? [1]	(Version with more): Julie has 3 more apples than Lucy. Julie has 5 apples. How many apples does Lucy have? [2]
Compare (*Fewer* version)	(“How many fewer?” version): Lucy has 2 apples. Julie has 5 apples. How many fewer apples does Lucy have than Julie? 2 + ▢ = 5, 5 – 2 = ▢ [1]	(Version with fewer): Lucy has 3 fewer apples than Julie. Lucy has 2 apples. How many apples does Julie have? 2 + 3 = ▢ , 3 + 2 = ▢ [2]	(Version with fewer): Lucy has 3 fewer apples than Julie. Julie has five apples. How many apples does Lucy have? 5 – 3 = ▢ , ▢ + 3 = 5 [1]

Grade 1 and 2 students work with all subtypes and variants. Problem types labeled [2] are the four difficult subtypes or variants that students should work with in Grade 1 but need not master until Grade 2. Adapted from CCSS, p. 88, which is based on Mathematics Learning in Early Childhood: Paths Toward Excellence and Equity, National Research Council, 2009, pp. 32–33.

[1] Either addend can be missing. Be sure to include both variations.›

[2] This can be used to show all the “partners” of a given number, especially important with and within 10. Be sure to include number sentences in which the total is on the left side of the equal sign to help students understand that the equal sign does not mean “here comes the answer”.

http://bit.ly/K2ProblemTypes