Explore together

Balance Both Sides

Find a hidden number that makes both sides equal.

Get ready: 24 identical blocks and two mats or bowls.

01 Make the groups equal

Put 7 blocks on the left and 12 on the right.
Add 5 blocks to the left. Now both sides have 12.
Write 7 + 5 = 12. The equal sign says both sides have the same value.

02 Check both sides

8 + ___ = 6 + 4. The right side is 10.
Put 2 in the blank. The left side is 8 + 2, also 10.

Ask as you play

“Can you show me how you know?” Let your child point, build, draw or tell.