

# Show a child what adding means

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Let's keep it very simple. Show the child this sight word (taken from SnapWords™ VERBS from [www.child1st.com](http://www.child1st.com)) and talk about what is happening in the picture.



If the child has ever been apple picking, he will probably relate to what the girls are doing in this picture. They have put three apples into their basket and then they went back for more! The girl in the yellow outfit is going to ADD three MORE apples to the basket, while the girl in blue is going to ADD four MORE apples to the basket.

Let the child talk about what they might be planning to do with the apples. Can they eat them all before they get too ripe? Maybe they are going to make an apple pie or some delicious applesauce! What would the child do with all the apples the girls ADDED to the basket?

After you have spent time discussing this little mini-story, the child might really enjoy creating another scenario for himself. Maybe he has three race cars in his toy box. If he has a birthday, maybe his cousin will give him another car to ADD to his collection.

Make sure to emphasize the words ADD and MORE as related to addition problems.

Act out some more addition word problems, and after a while, take the pictures you have drawn together or the scenes you have acted out, and turn them into number problems like this from our apple picture:

$$3+3+4 = 10$$

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Go to [www.child1st.com](http://www.child1st.com) for resources for right brained learners that utilize images, body movement, story, patterns, and much more.