

Children are able to apply and adapt acquired mathematical ideas to new situations when they develop conceptual understanding. Conceptual understanding is understanding the WHY in mathematics.

Allowing students time to progress with concrete materials will develop a strong number sense and **conceptual understanding**.

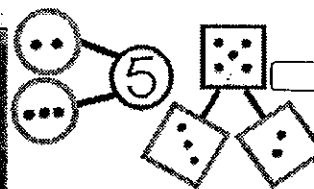
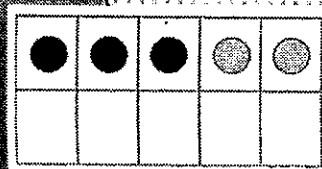
Concrete

- Hands-on
- "Doing" stage
- Manipulatives



Pictorial

- Visual representations
- "Seeing" stage
- Drawings



Abstract

- Symbols
- "Symbolic" stage
- Numbers & symbols

$$3 + 2 = 5$$