Building Classroom Climates -- 2nd Grade -- Using Tools in Support of Mathematical Thinking Video transcript from Day 2: Presenting new tools and modeling their use

MIA BULJAN: Today during math we're going to get a new tool. Who remember the tool that we had yesterday? Bebe, what was it?

STUDENT: Counters.

MIA BULJAN: It was counters. You did lots of interesting things with the counters but today we're going to be getting some cubes. And in order to use the cubes we're going to finish talking about taking care of our tools. So I have some cubes here. Do you see my cubes? And I have this math idea in my head -- I have this math idea that I was trying to show with my cubes. What do you think my math idea was with these cubes? What do you think is happening with these cubes? What am I trying to explain with these cubes? Tell your hand. What's going on with these cubes? Oh, I shouldn't hear you when you tell your hand. Just tell your hand. Who has an idea? Why would I make my cubes look like this? What do you think I'm trying to show or explain with this idea? Who thinks that this is a shape like a pyramid that goes up in a point and then down the other side?

STUDENT: Oh, I know that.

MIA BULJAN: That's definitely what it looks like. Trinity, you want to add on to that? Or a different idea?

STUDENT: Different idea.

MIA BULJAN: She wants to share a different idea. Before you share your different idea, does someone want to add on to what Mark said? Interesting! So it has like the, visually, like, when you look at it, it seems like a pyramid but it's not actually a pyramid. Mark, is that right?

STUDENT: Yeah.

MIA BULJAN: Okay. Trinity, you want to try a new idea? What do you think I'm trying to do here? See how patient you are while she gets her idea together? That's what mathematicians do. And you're thinking about what she might be thinking about because you don't know if you agree with her or not until she says her idea.

STUDENT: You're trying to match them.

MIA BULJAN: Tell me a little bit about matching them. Does anybody else see matching here?

STUDENTS: Yeah.

MIA BULJAN: Hm. Do these match?

STUDENTS: Yeah.

MIA BULJAN: Do these match?

STUDENTS: Yeah.

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MIA BULJAN: Let me show you. Trini, what matches? You said I'm trying to match them.

STUDENT: These two.

MIA BULJAN: Does everybody agree with her that these two match?

STUDENTS: Yes.

MIA BULJAN: Hm. Anybody see another one that matches?