MIA BULJAN: Natalie, one last one.

STUDENT: What I did is that...well, first I made the sentence in my head. So then I used Flojo's [Anthony's] way and, and, I just switched the ...I crossed out...I mean, I put this one over here and crossed out this 10 and made it into 40. And then I switched this over here and crossed this out, and I got 10. So then I knew that 18 plus 32 equals 50. I mean, I mean 40 and 10 equals 50, so my answer was, got... was 50.

MIA BULJAN: Boys and girls, when you're working on your trays, you do this thing, right? Where you make your numbers, and then you put all your tens together and you put all your...

STUDENT: Ones together.

MIA BULJAN: Ones together. So Natalie did something like what you did with your tray. So let's see what that looks like when we write it down. She says "each of these numbers, if I build it, have some tens and some ones." Her idea is to put all the tens on one side and all the ones on the other side. You see what she's thinking about? How many tens are in this number? How many tens is she looking at? Show me with your fingers. How many tens is in this number? One. So she...a ten, that's right. She's holding that in her head. She says, "This one has a ten." And how many does this number have? Show me with your fingers. How many does this number have? How many? So in her head she thinks one ten and three tens...let's count those. 10, 20, 30, 40. Everybody, let's count those.

STUDENTS: 10...

MIA BULJAN: And then she deals with her ones. Krishnil, how many ones does she have?

STUDENT: Um...

MIA BULJAN: How many does she have over here?

STUDENT: Eight.

MIA BULJAN: And how many does she have over here?

STUDENT: Two.

MIA BULJAN: And she says I can put those together and make how many?

STUDENT: Ten.

MIA BULJAN: So she puts all of the ones on this side, just like you do on your tray -- all of your tens and all of your ones. Do you see how that matches how you build your numbers? So Natalie, what happened when you said 40 plus 10?

STUDENT: That it equals 50.

MIA BULJAN: Is Natalie's way like Anthony's way or is it like Janiya's way?

STUDENT: Janiya.

MIA BULJAN: Tell your hand.

STUDENT: Both of them.

Inside Mathematics

MIA BULJAN: Hold on. Tell your hand. Is it like Anthony's way or is it like Janiya's?

STUDENT: Anthony.

MIA BULJAN: Tell your hand. Turn and tell your partner...wait, wait, wait. It sounds like this: "I think it's like "mm's" way because," and you have to have a reason. Do you see how it sounds when you say because? You have to give a...a reason, some evidence. You got it? Turn.

STUDENT: I like Anthony's because me and him did the same thing and I like...his is just like mine's.

STUDENT: I think it's because it's Janiya's and Anthony's way because, she...she used the counting way in her head, Natalie did it, and then, um, and then she used Anthony's way as putting the tens and the ones together.

MIA BULJAN: Does anybody want to explain how they got their answer up here? We already heard Sa'Rye's way. Sayana, is one of these yours?

STUDENT: I tried 57.

MIA BULJAN: Was that your answer? How did you do that?

STUDENT: Fifty-seven is my answer because I kind of did it...I kind of did it like Natalie and Janiya but it's a little different. First, I put the three with the eight and then that made 11, so I decided to put the two with the eight so that made 10, and the one with the three made four.

MIA BULJAN: Okay.

STUDENT: So after that I kind of used the number line and I went to 18...wait. I went to 18 then I...wait. I went to 32 and I counted 18 more.

MIA BULJAN: Show me what that looks like -- 32.

STUDENT: Thirty-two, wait. Where's 32? Oh well! 32, 33, 34...47, 48, 49, 50.

MIA BULJAN: So the first time she forgot to stop counting. So Sayana, yours has a name too. Sa'Rye's is counting on from the first number that she sees, and yours is called counting on from the biggest number.

STUDENT: Oh wow!

MIA BULJAN: So the first number was 18, but she looked for the biggest number, which was 32, and then she started counting. Put your hands down for a second. Boys and girls, we're at that time the year, we're at that time of the year where the numbers are getting bigger, and counting by ones gets a little bit sloppy. It's easy to lose track, isn't it? And it's easy to forget which number that you're on and how many times you have counted. So Sayana and Sa'Rye, I invite to you start thinking about these groups of ten instead of counting everything by ones. Did you see how when they counted by their tens that it was a lot more efficient? So which one would you try next time?

STUDENT: Count by tens and...

MIA BULJAN: Which one? Janiya's, Anthony's, or Natalie's?

STUDENT: Hm.

MIA BULJAN: Which one felt right to you? Which one convinced you that it was 50?

Janiya was very convincing today. So that's two convinced customers.

STUDENT: Customer?

MIA BULJAN: Thank you, Sayana. So you know what? The next time we're doing a number talk, why don't you go sit by Janiya and see if you can talk it through with her.