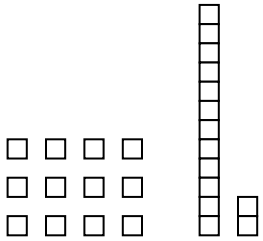
ACTIVITY C
Permission Granted

DIFFERENT WAYS

1. On the overhead projector write the numeral 12. Ask students to show this number with your Base Ten Blocks and explain how they did it. As students explain, put blocks on the projector to show 12. Ask if there are other ways to use blocks to show 12.



2. Tell students that their challenge is to use their Base Ten Blocks to find different ways to show 21. Explain that they will work with a partner to find as many different ways to show 21 as they can. Tell them to record their work and be ready to tell how they know each way shows 21.

3. Questions for Discussion

   - How many ways did you find to show 21? What were those ways?
   - How did you know that you had found all the ways to show 21?
   - Which way used the fewest blocks? Which way used the most blocks?
   - How did you organize your work?

4. Extension #1

   - Ask students if they think there would be more or fewer ways to show 29 than there were to show 21. Have them explore and explain.
   - Select 3 other 2 digit numbers to explore and see if a pattern emerges.

5. Extension #2

   - Have students compare values such as
     28 & 9 and 18 & 19,
     34 & 8 and 24 & 18,
     43 & 6 and 33 & 16

[Source: 20 Thinking Questions for Base Ten Blocks Grades 2-3, Creative Publications]