Everyday Math

11.3

Notes on Using Digi-Block with Everyday Math

Connection

In Section 3 (Options for Individualizing), students read the book, 100 Hungry Ants by Eleanor Pinczes. Act out the story with Digi Blocks, showing different arrangements of 100 ants.

Materials

100 single blocks

Lesson

- Tell students that as they hear a story about some very hungry ants, they will use blocks to model what happens.
- Open the book to the first page. Have students study the illustration and arrange the 100 blocks in a single line on the classroom floor. Consider lining up the blocks in holders, with the covers open.
- · Ask, Will all the ants arrive at the same time? How do you think the first ant in line feels? The last ant? Why?
- Continue reading and having students arrange the blocks to show 2 lines of 50, 4 lines of 25, 5 lines of 20, and finally, 10 lines of ten.
- Help students translate the arrangements into numbers and number sentences, such as:

 $5 \times 20 = 100$

Counting by 25's: 25, 50, 75, 100

• Finish the story. Ask, If the ants had more time, how else might they have arranged themselves? Students may suggest 20 lines of 5, 50 lines of 2, or even 100 lines of 1 (in which they would all arrive at the same time!)