

## Use Properties of Addition

Properties of addition can help you group and order addends so you can use mental math to find sums.

The **Commutative Property of Addition** states that when the order of two addends is changed, the sum is the same.  $6 + 3 = 3 + 6$

The **Associative Property of Addition** states that when the grouping of addends is changed, the sum is the same.  $(3 + 6) + 4 = 3 + (6 + 4)$

Use the properties and mental math to add  $10\frac{3}{8} + 4\frac{7}{8} + 6\frac{5}{8}$ .

**Step 1** Look for fractions that combine to make 1.  $10\frac{3}{8} + 4\frac{7}{8} + 6\frac{5}{8}$

**Step 2** Use the Commutative Property to order the addends so that the fractions with a sum of 1 are together.  $10\frac{3}{8} + 4\frac{7}{8} + 6\frac{5}{8} = 10\frac{3}{8} + 6\frac{5}{8} + 4\frac{7}{8}$

**Step 3** Use the Associative Property to group the addends that you can add mentally.  $= (10\frac{3}{8} + 6\frac{5}{8}) + 4\frac{7}{8}$

**Step 4** Add the grouped numbers and then add the other mixed number.  $= (17) + 4\frac{7}{8}$

**Step 5** Write the sum.  $= 21\frac{7}{8}$

Use the properties and mental math to find the sum.

**1**  $(3\frac{1}{5} + 1\frac{2}{5}) + 4\frac{4}{5}$       **2**  $(5\frac{7}{10} + 1\frac{4}{10}) + 6\frac{3}{10}$       **3**  $7\frac{3}{4} + (5 + 3\frac{1}{4})$

**4**  $(2\frac{5}{12} + 3\frac{11}{12}) + 1\frac{7}{12}$       **5**  $4\frac{7}{8} + (6\frac{3}{8} + \frac{1}{8})$       **6**  $9\frac{2}{6} + (4\frac{1}{6} + 7\frac{4}{6})$