Visualizing Decimal Addition and Subtraction

1. Reading Decimals to Emphasize Place Value
At your table, discuss and record below as many different (mostly non-standard) ways you can read 3.240 without starting “Three point…”

Examples: 3 and 2 tenths and 40 thousandths.
 32 tenths and 4 hundredths.

1. Technology: Base Blocks Decimal
National Library of Virtual Manipulatives
<http://nlvm.usu.edu/en/nav/vlibrary.html>
Number and Operations, Grades 3-5. Base Blocks Decimal.
Note: Won’t work in Google Chrome. Will work in Safari or Firefox.

Demonstration of the app:

 9.4 84.6
 + 1.8 –26.7

1. Manipulative: Base Ten Blocks
Same as the app, only you move, exchange and cancel blocks by hand instead of on screen.
2. To do: Working in pairs, perform these computations with either the Base Blocks Decimal app or Base Ten Blocks. If you finish them all, make up and do your own and/or discuss how you would use these ideas in your class.

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| 3.86+ 4.44 | 3.92– 0.96 | 57.17+ 28.99 | 75.04– 68.35 |