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Introduction

Applying Problem-Solving Strategies 3–4 contains dozens of ready-to-use activity pages to provide students with skill practice. The fun activities can be used to supplement and enhance what you are already teaching in your classroom. Give an activity page to students as independent class work, or send the pages home as homework to reinforce skills taught in class. An answer key is provided at the end of the book for quick reference.

This book provides activities that will directly assist students in practicing strategies needed to solve word problems. The activities are grouped in three-page sets that cover each problem-solving strategy. The first activity page of each set includes the subhead "Show Me the Way" because it demonstrates step-by-step for the student how to use the strategy. The remaining pages offer students a chance to practice using the strategy to solve similar problems. Please note that the problems in each section could be solved using multiple strategies.

Use these ready-to-go activities to "recharge" skill review and give students the power to succeed!

Name _____ Date _____
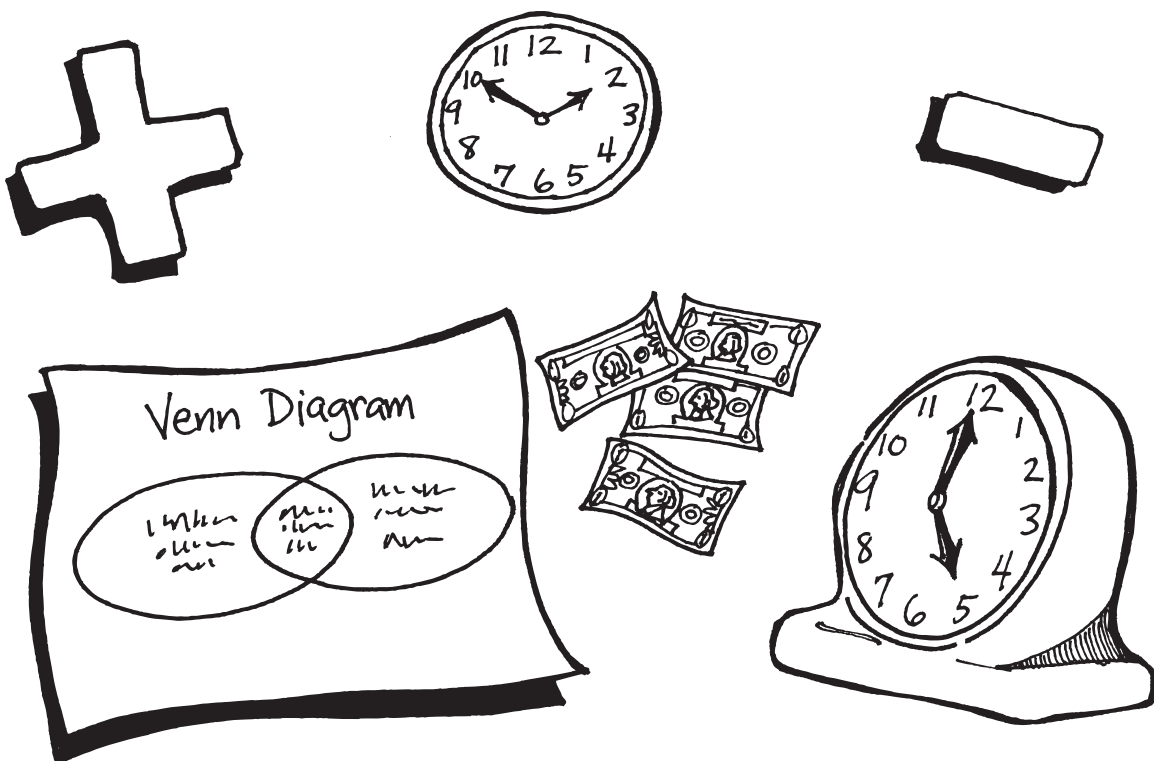
Homework Time

SHOW ME THE WAY TO WORK BACKWARDS

Before dinner, Cira did her homework. She spent 15 minutes practicing her spelling words. Right after that she spent twice as long completing her math homework. She finished at 4:50 p.m. What time did she start practicing her spelling words? _____

Strategic Steps

1 If you work backwards, you can easily find Cira's start time. She spent 15 minutes practicing her spelling and twice as long on her math homework. Using addition, double the time spent on spelling to find out how much time she spent on math homework.

15 minutes + 15 minutes = _____ (time spent on math homework)

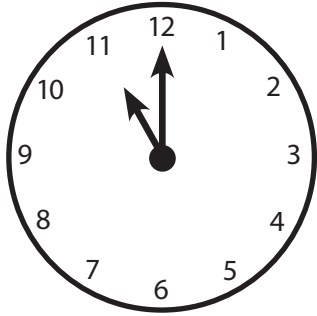**2** Then start at 4:50 p.m. Subtract the time she spent on math homework.
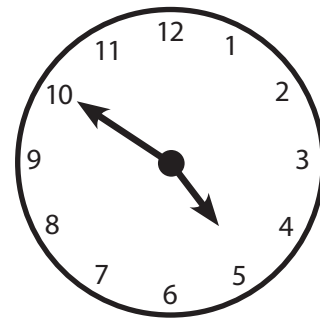
3 Next, subtract 15 minutes from this new time to find out what time she started practicing her spelling words.
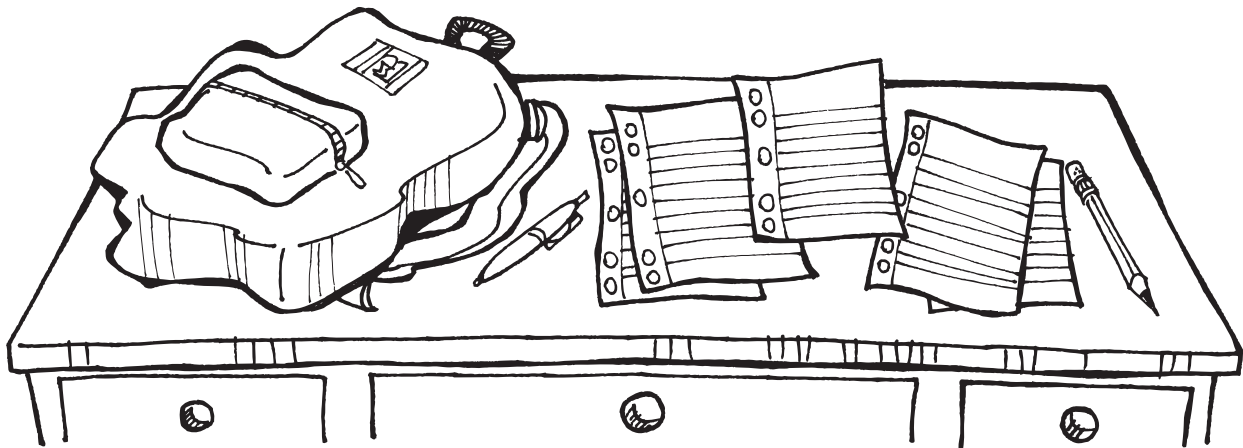
Backwards Time

A Hunter has several chores to do before he can go swimming with his friend. Unloading the dishwasher and putting away the dishes takes 25 minutes. He can dust and vacuum the house in 40 minutes. Cleaning his room takes 15 minutes. If Hunter's friend picks him up at 11:00 a.m., what is the latest time he can start his chores?

B Arthur needs to arrive at school at 8:00 a.m. It takes him 10 minutes to shower, 5 minutes to get dressed, 15 minutes to eat breakfast, 5 minutes to finish getting ready and get his things together, and 10 minutes to walk to school. What time must he get up to arrive at school on time?

C Jenny wants to watch a movie on TV that starts at 7:00 p.m. First she has to clear the table, which takes 10 minutes, and spend the next 25 minutes finishing her homework. Then she reads to her sister for a half hour. What time does she have to start clearing the table so that she can watch the movie?
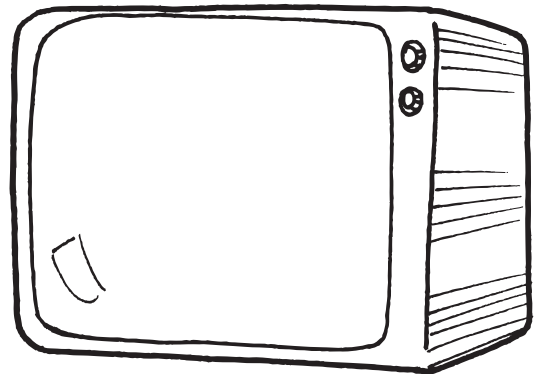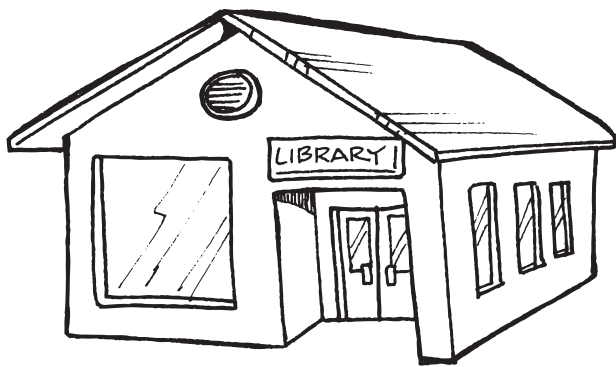
Hobbies

A Jasper made cookies to share with his friends. He put all of the cookies on a plate and passed it around. Johnny took 6 cookies, Brandy took half as many cookies as Johnny, Clarissa took 2 more than Brandy, and there were 3 cookies left. How many cookies did Jasper make?

_____
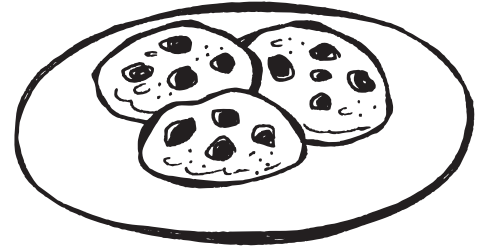
B Vanessa rode her bicycle from school to the library, from the library to the park, and then home. She rode a total of 9 miles. If it is 2 miles from the library to the park and 3 miles from the park to her house, how far is it from the school to the library?

_____

C Diamond loves to go to the library and goes once a week. The first week she checked out 5 books, the second week she checked out twice as many books, and the third week she checked out 7 books. If she checked out 26 books in January, how many books did she check out the last week?

_____

Name _____ Date _____
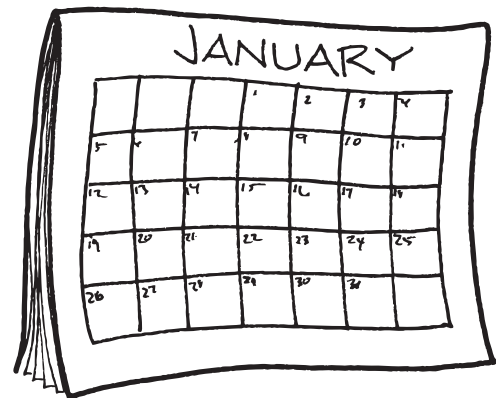
Air Hockey Tournament

Four players are participating in an air hockey tournament. Each of these players must play each other. How many games will be played?

_____

Strategic Steps

1 Break this problem into several small steps. Assign each of the 4 players a letter to make it easier, such as A, B, C, and D. Start with player A and match that player with all the other players.

Player **A**: A vs. _____

A vs. _____

A vs. _____

2 Move on to the other players and continue listing all the new games each player will play. Remember not to list the same game twice. For example, A vs. B and B vs. A is the same game and should not be repeated.
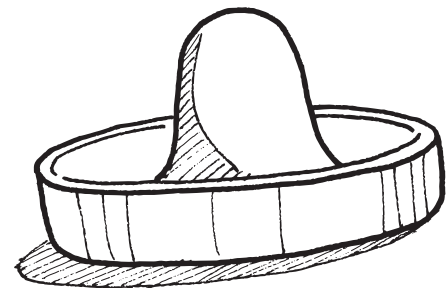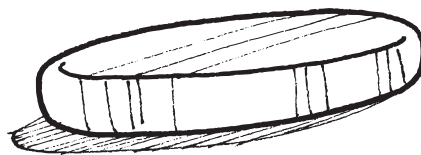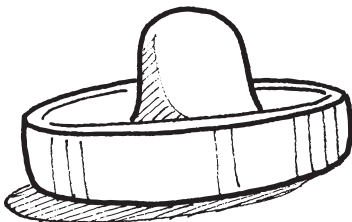
Player **B**: B vs. _____

B vs. _____

Player **C**: C vs. _____

Player **D**: no new games

3 Once you have finished, count the number of games to find the total played during the tournament.

Name _____ Date _____

Geography Bee

Mrs. Postelle's class is having a geography bee. There are 6 finalists. The finalists will be paired with each of the other finalists to answer a different question. The other class members will write the questions.

How many questions will the class need to write? _____

Finalist **A**: _____ _____ _____ _____ _____
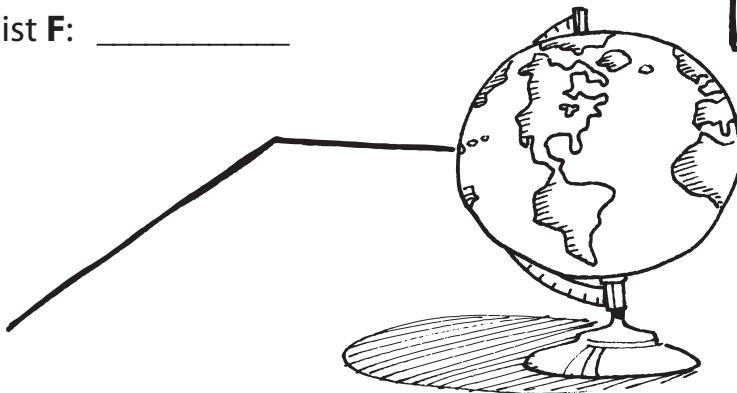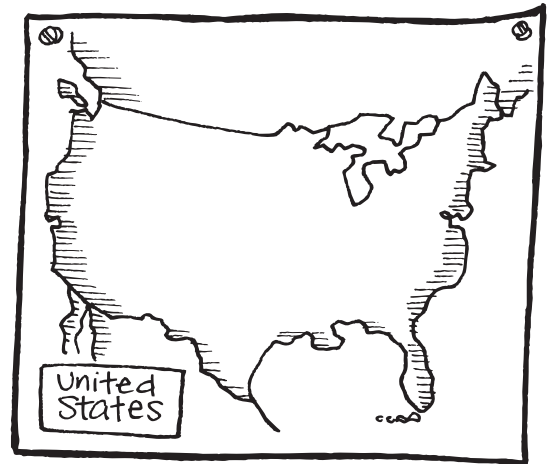
Finalist **B**: _____ _____ _____ _____

Finalist **C**: _____ _____ _____

Finalist **D**: _____ _____

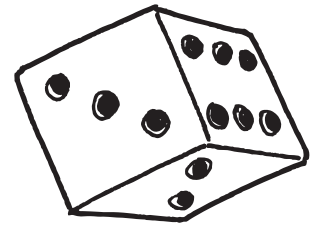Finalist **E**: _____

Finalist **F**: _____

Game Time

Mrs. Colley's class is having a board game tournament. Eight students have signed up to play in the tournament. In each game, one student will be paired against another. The games will continue until every student has played each of the other seven students.
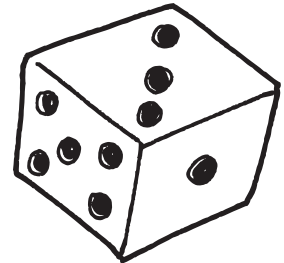
How many games will be played in the tournament? _____
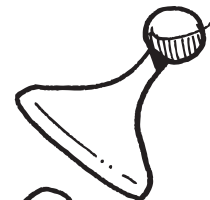
Player **A**: _____

_____

Player **B**: _____

_____

Player **C**: _____

Player **D**: _____

Player **E**: _____

Player **F**: _____

Player **G**: _____

Player **H**: _____

Name _____ Date _____

A Penny Saved

A John earns $10 each week by mowing the lawn for his dad. He gets the same amount in allowance each week. Every week he goes to the arcade and spends $4. He puts the rest of his money in his piggy bank. After six weeks, how much money will he have saved?

_____

Strategic Steps

1. First, find out how much money John has coming in each week. Add the money he earns to the amount of his allowance.   _____ + _____ = _____

2. Next, see how much he saved each week. Take the total from Step 1 and subtract from it the money he spent at the arcade.   _____ – $4 = _____

3. Then take this amount and multiply it by 6 to see how much he saves over six weeks.   _____ × 6 = _____

B Melissa is starting a jewelry business. She wants to make beaded necklaces, bracelets, and earrings to sell. To start her business, she needs to buy supplies. She has $100 to spend. Assorted beads cost $45, the wire costs $8, and other supplies cost $23. How much money will she have left after buying all the supplies?

_____

Strategic Steps

1. First, add up the cost of her supplies.

   _____ (beads) + _____ (wire) + _____ (other supplies) = _____

2. Next, subtract the total of Step 1 from the $100 she has to spend.

   $100 – _____ (answer from Step 1) = _____ (how much she'll have left)