

# Lesson 118 • Word Problems

## Learning objectives

Children will:

- learn how to approach a word problem.
- look for clue words and numbers.
- use an equation or picture to solve the problem.

## Australian Curriculum Content Descriptions

### Number and Algebra

*Patterns and algebra*

**ACMNA036** Solve problems by using number sentences for addition or subtraction; represent a word problem as a number sentence.

*Number and place value*

**ACMNA030** Solve simple addition and subtraction problems using a range of efficient mental and written strategies; model and represent simple additive situations using materials.

## Key vocabulary

word problem, numbers to 100, clues, altogether, sum, addition, +, solve, subtraction, –, act it out, jump strategy, equation

## Extra assistance

Students should approach a word problem with a plan: read the problem, look for clue words and numbers, apply a strategy and find the answer. Most simple, one-step problems involve an operation – addition, subtraction, multiplication or division. This is the first thing to work out. Then some strategies to consider are writing an equation, drawing a picture or diagram, acting it out with concrete materials, using a number line or guess and check.

## Classroom activities

### Brainstorm

Divide the class into two groups and give them an A3 piece of paper with an operation symbol on top: + or –. Ask them to make lists of words that could be clues for each operation. For example:

- + and, how many, altogether, more, total, in all
- how many left, how many more or less, difference

Put the sheets up on the wall as helpful posters.

### Write and Swap

Give students a number sentence each and ask them to write a word problem putting the equation in a familiar context. Or give them two numbers to put in a problem of their own making, using either operation. Have them swap with their table mates and solve each other's problems.

Mathseeds Lesson sequence	TEACH Content and skills	PRACTISE Children will:	APPLY
<i>Animated Lesson:</i> Read and calculate	Word problems: read the problem and recognise what type of calculation is needed. Solve the problem using a drawing or act it out.	identify the operation to be used and the numbers. Make a picture or act it out to find the answer.	<b>Worksheet 1</b> Word problems
<i>Word problems:</i> Word Problems, Use An Equation, Draw a Diagram, Apple Problems	Read a word problem and translate it to an equation or picture.	read the problem. Match to or make a sum or picture and find the answer.	<b>Worksheet 2</b> Draw a picture
<i>Equations:</i> Number Bar Take Away, Jump Forward, Equations, True or False?	Find the difference between two numbers on the number line. Jump down the number chart to answer a sum. Complete equations using groups and numerals. Read equations using =, + and – symbols.	put two number bars on the number line and find the difference. Split a number into tens and ones to add. Drag a card to complete the number sentence. Recognise whether an equation is true or false.	<b>Worksheet 3</b> Act it out
<i>Time:</i> Waldo Has 15 Minutes	Understand how the quarters of an hour work.	Find the time on the clock and the time 15 minutes later.	<b>Worksheet 4</b> Check
<i>Read:</i> Book	Read aloud book.	listen, follow the reading and read along.	<b>Mathseeds book 118:</b> How to Solve a Problem

Name \_\_\_\_\_

- 1** Circle the numbers in each problem. Fill in the equation.

Mango has 23 bananas in her basket and picks another 36 bananas. How many bananas altogether?

$$\square + \square = \square$$

Dizzy made 18 smoke rings but five blew away. How many rings are left?

$$\square - \square = \square$$

- 2** Circle the clue words for the operation. Complete the sum.

Waldo bought ten pies and ate three on the way home. How many pies are left?

$$10 \square 3 = \square$$

Ruby had 64 marbles and bought 26 more marbles. How many altogether?

$$64 \square 26 = \square$$

- 3** Write a number sentence. Find the answer.

Doc has 27 bow ties.  
Ruby has 16 hair bows.  
How many bows altogether?

\_\_\_\_\_

Mango made 22 sandwiches and gave four sandwiches to Waldo. How many sandwiches are left?

\_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Draw a picture of the problem. Find the answer.

- 1** There are nine cows in the barn. Farmer Jo brings in five more cows. How many cows in the barn now?

- 2** There were twelve ducks on the pond but six flew away. How many ducks on the pond now?

- 3** Fifteen horses ran up the hill. Eight horses ran back down. How many horses are still at the top of the hill?

- 4** Four pigs are rolling in the mud. Eight pigs are sleeping in the corner. How many pigs in total?

Name \_\_\_\_\_

1 Use counters to act out the problem. Find the answer.

I have twelve red apples. You have fourteen green apples.

My friend has three yellow apples.

How many apples altogether? \_\_\_\_\_



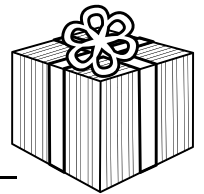
Twenty-two people went on a picnic.

Five left after one hour. Eight left half an hour later.

How many people were left at the end? \_\_\_\_\_

For my party we had ten balloons,  
fifteen party hats and twelve paper plates.

How many party things in total? \_\_\_\_\_



There were twenty pears in the fruit bowl.

We ate nine on Monday and seven on Tuesday.

How many pears were left for Wednesday? \_\_\_\_\_



2 Use play money to act out the problem. Find the answer.

Toy cars cost 60c each. Ali wants to buy three.

How much will they cost altogether? \_\_\_\_\_



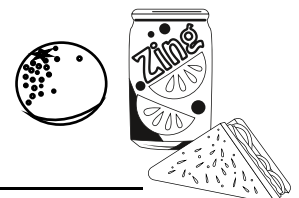
Bailey had \$35 for a day at the zoo. The bus ride cost \$4.

The zoo ticket cost \$18. A toy lion cost \$11.

How much money does Bailey have left? \_\_\_\_\_

For lunch, Linh spent \$1.25 on a drink,  
75c on an orange and \$1.50 on a sandwich.

How much did lunch cost in total? \_\_\_\_\_



Name \_\_\_\_\_

- 1 Read the problem.
- 2 Circle the clue words and numbers.
- 3 Write a sum.
- 4 Find the answer. You can draw a picture or act it out.

There are fourteen girls and thirteen boys in Mrs Finn's class. How many students altogether?

In the pencil box are twenty-one pencils. Eleven people take a pencil out. How many pencils left in the box?

Chris has two scissors, sixteen crayons, eight pencils and one glue stick. How many items in total?

There are twenty-eight students in Mr Singh's class. Six are away today. Nine go to sport. How many students left?