



**LEARN-TO-SOLVE
WORD PROBLEMS**



Learn-to-Solve Word Problems

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Learn-to-Solve Word Problems

Using the Cards with the Talking Hot Dots® Pen

The Talking Hot Dots Pen (sold separately) adds instant, self-checking feedback to independent practice in a fun, interactive way. When the cards are used with the Talking Hot Dots Pen, students receive electronic answer reinforcement in two ways:

- Touch the pen to a CORRECT answer dot on the card and students are instantly rewarded with a glowing green light, a cool phrase, and a variety of motivating sounds.
- Touch the pen to an INCORRECT answer dot on the card and the pen glows red and gently provides encouraging words and sound effects.

Before letting students work independently, demonstrate how to use the cards and the Talking Hot Dots Pen. Choose a sample card, read the question together, and select the correct answer choice. Show students how to position the pen on the center of the Hot Dot next to the answer choice, making sure the tip of the pen sits flat on the surface of the dot. Demonstrate what happens when an incorrect Hot Dot answer choice is selected.

Tips:

- Make sure the cards rest on a hard surface when using the Talking Hot Dots Pen on them.
- Never laminate the cards.

What's on each card?

Learn-to-Solve Word Problems Algebra

Which of the following scenarios could not be represented by a negative integer?

Scenario 1: The town of Okia is 203 feet below sea level.
Scenario 2: Mary owes \$42 to her aunt.
Scenario 3: The plant grew 17 inches.

1. A negative integer

- A. represents a value less than 0
- B. represents a value greater than 0
- C. represents a value equal to 0

2. Which of the following is a key word in this problem?

- A. Mary
- B. Okia
- C. not

3. Which of the following scenarios could not be represented by a negative integer?

- A. scenario 1
- B. scenario 2
- C. scenario 3

4. How could you represent Scenario 3?

- A. negative 17
- B. positive 17
- C. positive 42

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skill area
word problem

guiding
questions

Hot Dot

card number

Suggestions for the Teacher

This set of 80 word problems for students in grades 4-6 is designed to guide students through the problem-solving process. Each card contains a word problem followed by several guiding questions. The guiding questions help students to: determine which information is necessary to solve the problem, choose an operation, and avoid making common mistakes when solving word problems.

Using the Cards in Your Class

Students read the word problem and then answer the accompanying questions with the Talking Hot Dots Pen or with pencil and paper. The cards may be duplicated and the guiding questions given as a group or class activity. You may also wish to project a card for the whole class to see so you can discuss the problem-solving process together.

Guiding Students Through the Problem-Solving Process

As students work through the problems on these cards, they will see the types of questions they should internally ask themselves when presented with challenging word problems. Incorporate these types of questions into your instruction as much as possible. Some examples of helpful questions are:

- What is the meaning of key vocabulary words used in the problem?
- Which information will you need to solve this problem?
- What operation do you need to use?
- What formula will help you?
- Can you estimate a reasonable answer before solving the problem?
- What are the units that should go with the answer?
- How could you check your work to make sure your answer is correct?

Learn-to-Solve Word Problems

Answer Key

Card No.	1	Question 2	3	4
1	C	B	A	B
2	A	C	A	A
3	B	A	B	C
4	C	B	A	B
5	B	C	B	A
6	A	C	C	A
7	C	A	C	C
8	C	A	A	A
9	A	C	A	B
10	B	A	C	C
11	C	B	C	B
12	C	A	A	C
13	B	C	A	C
14	A	C	C	B
15	A	B	C	C
16	C	A	C	B
17	A	C	B	B
18	C	B	C	B
19	B	C	A	C
20	B	A	C	C

Card No.	1	Question 2	3	4
21	C	A	A	C
22	C	A	B	A
23	B	A	C	B
24	C	B	A	B
25	C	A	A	C
26	A	B	B	B
27	B	A	C	C
28	C	B	A	A
29	C	A	A	B
30	C	B	A	C
31	C	A	B	B
32	A	B	A	B
33	C	A	B	A
34	B	A	A	C
35	C	B	A	B
36	A	C	C	B
37	A	B	A	C
38	C	A	B	B
39	B	A	C	A
40	B	A	A	C

Card No.	1	Question 2	3	4
41	C	A	B	B
42	C	C	A	A
43	C	B	A	A
44	A	B	C	B
45	C	B	A	C
46	A	C	B	B
47	B	C	C	A
48	B	A	B	C
49	B	B	A	C
50	B	A	C	A
51	C	B	A	B
52	C	A	B	B
53	B	A	B	C
54	C	C	A	B
55	A	C	B	B
56	C	C	B	B
57	A	C	A	B
58	B	A	B	C
59	C	A	C	B
60	A	B	A	B

Card No.	1	Question 2	3	4
61	C	B	A	C
62	B	A	A	B
63	A	C	C	B
64	C	B	A	B
65	B	A	B	C
66	B	B	C	C
67	B	A	B	C
68	C	A	B	C
69	B	C	A	C
70	C	A	C	A
71	B	A	A	C
72	C	B	B	A
73	A	C	A	A
74	B	C	A	A
75	B	C	B	C
76	C	B	A	B
77	B	C	A	B
78	A	A	C	B
79	A	B	B	C
80	A	B	A	C