

Word Problems — Creating and Solving Our Own

Base Sheet

Activity Sheet

The child creates original word problems for each of the four operations and exchanges them with a partner (parent) to solve. This demonstrates deep mathematical understanding and integrates literacy with math.

What You Need:

- Paper for writing problems
- Pencil
- Counters for solving
- Four operation symbol cards (+, -, x, /)

Steps:

1. Review the four operations and their clue words.
2. 'Today YOU write the word problems! You will create one for each operation.'
3. Model: 'For addition, I might write: Mom baked 8 cookies. Dad baked 6 more. How many cookies altogether?'
4. The child writes one word problem for each: addition, subtraction, multiplication, division.
5. Exchange problems with the parent. Each person solves the other's problems.
6. Check answers together.
7. The child rates the difficulty of their own problems: easy, medium, or challenging.

Work Space:

