

Words problems can be difficult, but not if you have the right tools. Equations are a great way to write the information in a word problem, making it easy to find the answer.



Key vocabulary

variable

In mathematics, a variable is a symbol or letter that stands for one or more numbers.

expression

In math, a part of a number sentence that includes numbers, operational symbols, and sometimes variables. It does not include an equal sign.

equation

A mathematical statement in which one set of numbers or values is equal to another set of numbers or values.

solution

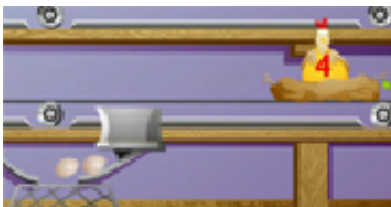
A homogenous mixture in which substances are blended evenly. Or, the answer to a problem, an explanation.

Related articles



Properties of Addition

The best way to win the game is to play by the rules. Learn these three rules for addition, and you will be an adding champion.



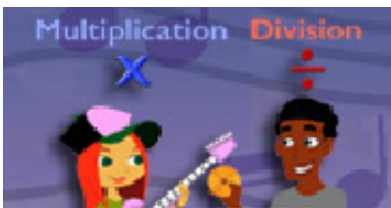
Relate Addition & Subtraction

Did you know that you can undo addition by using subtraction? And you can undo subtraction with addition, too. This neat little trick is called inverse operations.



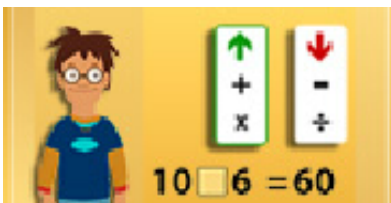
Multiplication

Did you know that multiplication is like addition, but faster? All you have to do is figure out your factors, and you will have your answer in no time.



Relate Multiplication & Division

As inverse operations, multiplication and division are closely related. That is good news for you because it makes undoing them easy and fast.



Determine the Missing Operation in an Equation

If your equation is missing its operation sign, you are in luck! There are only four choices addition, subtraction, multiplication or division.



Order of Operations

PLEASE follow the order of operations, and you will be master of all equations!