



Newsletter Math

An underlying strand that is woven throughout the California Mathematics Standards is **Mathematical Reasoning**. Beginning in Kindergarten, our children are asked to make choices about strategies for approaching problems and use them effectively, explain their reasoning, make precise calculations, and check the reasonableness of their solutions. Newsletter Math is one way in which you can encourage your child to develop strategies for approaching non-routine problem situations. Present them with the appropriate problem situation; encourage them to come up with an approach (this may take some direction at first) and to follow through with it. Persistence is a key to problem solving, but don't be afraid to put it away and get it out again a few days later. Enjoy good conversation about the math as they think their way through the process. Always encourage them to explain their thinking to you, and then to me in writing (dictation is great with pre-writers). Encourage creativity! You may be surprised to find their unique approaches to be very successful. Use the checklist below as a guide.

Solution Checklist

On My paper . . .

- I wrote my name (first and last), grade level, and the date.**
- I showed my computation (where appropriate).**
I explained what each number refers to (such as 15 boys or 6 inches)
- I included the complete answer.**
I explained how I know that my answer is correct.
- I clearly explained in writing how I solved the problem.**
I explained what patterns I found.
I explained each step and why I used it.
I explained why I used the strategy I did for solving the problem.
- I used tools like manipulatives, pictures, tables, or graphs to help show how I solved the problem.**
I explained how these tools fit the problem.

Tasks are listed by grade level. Students are encouraged to complete their grade level problem and are welcome to attempt problems at other grade levels if they like. All participants whose solutions are received **by the end of the month** will receive personal feedback on their work by mail and a coupon for a small prize.

Please mail completed problems to: Hickman Charter School
Attn: Newsletter Math Solutions
13306 4th Street
Hickman, CA 95323

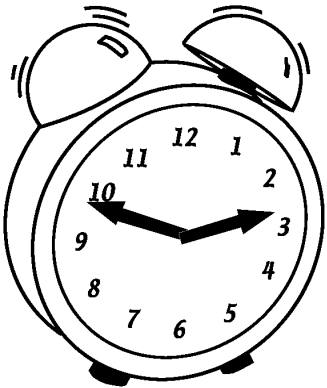




February's Problems

February 2014

K-2



Jack went to sleep at 9 o'clock at night and woke up at 7 o'clock the next morning. How many hours did he sleep?

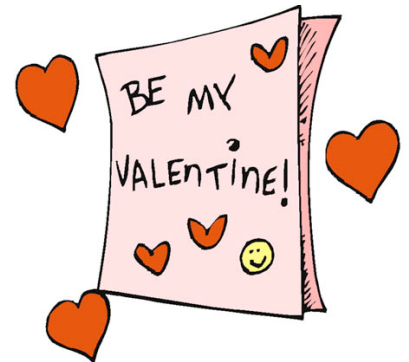
If he slept that many hours every night of the week, how many hours of sleep would he get in that whole week?

Find out how many hours you sleep in one night.
How many hours would you sleep in a week at that rate?

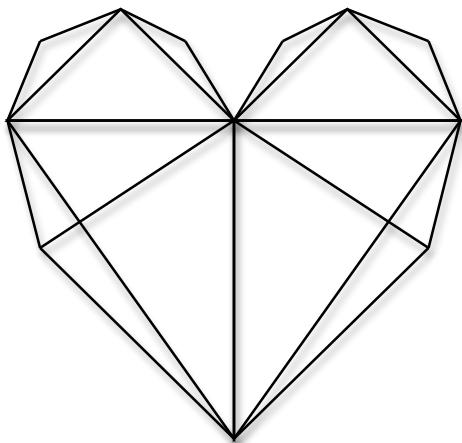
3-5

All of the children in Sarah's class handed out valentines to each of their classmates on Valentines Day. If there are 24 children in her class, how many valentines did each child receive? How many valentines were handed out altogether that day?

*- problem solving tips: act it out or use objects
use logical reasoning*



6-8



Stephanie designed a heart using only straight lines. When she finished her work she noticed that it was completely made up of triangles. She carefully counted them all. How many triangles can you find in her design?

*- problem solving tips: use a picture or diagram
make an organized list*



Don't forget to use the checklist on the other side to make sure that your solution is complete.