




Problem Solving Blueprint



1 READ AND THINK ABOUT THE PROBLEM.

 Thinking steps:

- What is the question you need to answer? 
- What information is needed to answer the question? 
- Visualize the problem. 

2 EXPLORE DIFFERENT STRATEGIES

 Thinking steps:

- Think of another problem that was similar.
 - Can you use a combination of strategies?
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- ✓ Act it out
 - ✓ Draw a picture or diagram
 - ✓ Use or make a table
 - ✓ Make an organized list
 - ✓ Guess and check
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- ✓ Look for a pattern
 - ✓ Work backwards
 - ✓ Use logical reasoning
 - ✓ Write a number sentence
 - ✓ Simplify
 - ✓ ???

3 MAKE A PLAN.

 Thinking steps:

- Can I solve it using more than one strategy?
- Which strategy or strategies make sense to you?


4 SOLVE.

 Thinking steps:

- Show how you solved the problem.
- Explain your thinking.

5 REVIEW YOUR SOLUTION.

 Thinking steps:

- Estimate your answer. 
- Check back for reasonableness.
- Did you answer the question? 