

Lesson 15: Write Equations for Story Problems

Standards Alignments

Addressing 1.NBT.A.1, 1.OA.A.1, 1.OA.C.6

Teacher-facing Learning Goals

- Use addition and subtraction to solve story problems with unknowns in all positions.
- Write equations to represent story problems.

Student-facing Learning Goals

- Let's solve story problems and write equations.

Lesson Purpose

The purpose of this lesson is for students to solve story problems with unknowns in all positions using addition and subtraction. Students write equations to represent each story problem.

In the previous lesson, students matched story problems to equations.

In this lesson, students work in pairs to solve four different types of story problems and show their thinking using drawings, numbers, words, or equations. Students create visual representations of their thinking for one story problem and participate in a gallery walk in which they write equations to match other's representations and show how they made sense of each other's work. Throughout the lesson, students make connections between story problems, representations, and equations (MP2).

Prior to this lesson, the teacher may consider reading *Sadako and the Thousand Paper Cranes*, by Eleanor Coer.

This lesson has a Student Section Summary.

Access for:

Students with Disabilities

- Action and Expression (Activity 2)

Instructional Routines

Estimation Exploration (Warm-up)

Materials to Gather

- Connecting cubes in towers of 10 and singles: Activity 1
- Tools for creating a visual display: Activity 2

Lesson Timeline

Warm-up	10 min
Activity 1	10 min
Activity 2	25 min
Lesson Synthesis	10 min
Cool-down	5 min

Teacher Reflection Question

In this lesson, students made connections between story problems and different representations of their thinking, including equations. What questions did you ask to help make their connections more visible? What did these connections reveal about students' understanding of different story problem types?

Cool-down (to be completed at the end of the lesson)

 5 min

Write An Equation

Standards Alignments

Addressing 1.OA.A.1, 1.OA.C.6

Student-facing Task Statement

Elena has 10 fewer paper stars than Priya.
Priya has 20 paper stars.
How many paper stars does Elena have?
Write an equation that represents the problem.
Put a box around the answer to the problem.

Student Responses

Sample responses:

- $10 + \boxed{10} = 20$
- $20 - 10 = \boxed{10}$