

Teaching Strategies - Model Simple Problems

Steps to solving problems:

When solving problems students need to understand the situation described in each problem, and interpret correctly the operation (such as addition, subtraction, multiplication, division) required. In the younger grades, we can teach students to look for words which indicate a particular operation.

Typical terms associated with the operations include:

- **Addition** - together, add, and, plus, more, altogether now
- **Subtraction** - subtract, less, left, take, difference between, leave, go away, eaten (and other words that imply less)
- **Multiplication** - each, times, altogether now, groups of, bags of, etc.
- **Division**

Solving problems
recognize the
students to

Using manipulatives

Give students
counters that

- Start with
- Allow students to
counters
out the
- Vary the
- Gradually increase the complexity of the problem and the size of the numbers involved.

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