Word Problem Intervention

By Numeracy Consultants

Level 2

Addition and Subtraction to 1,000

- Addition / Subtraction Result Unknown to 100
- Addition / Subtraction Result Unknown to 1,000
- Addition / Subtraction Change/Part Unknown to 100
- Addition / Subtraction Change/Part Unknown to 1,000
- Addition / Subtraction Start Unknown to 100
- Addition / Subtraction Start Unknown to 1,000
- Comparison Difference Unknown to 100
- Comparison Difference Unknown to 1,000
- Larger / Smaller Quantity Unknown to 100
- Larger / Smaller Quantity Unknown to 1,000

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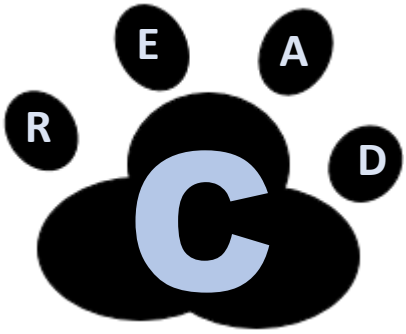
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CUBS Strategy

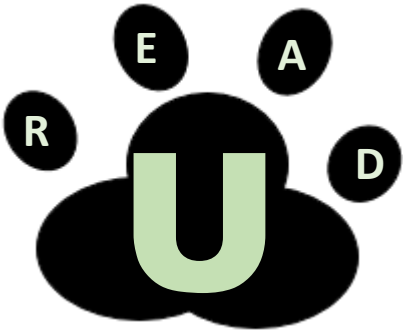




Read the Problem and

Comprehend

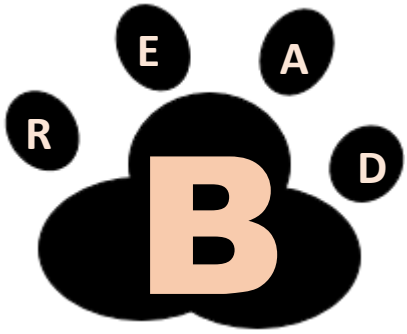
Say what is happening in your own words.



Reread the Problem and

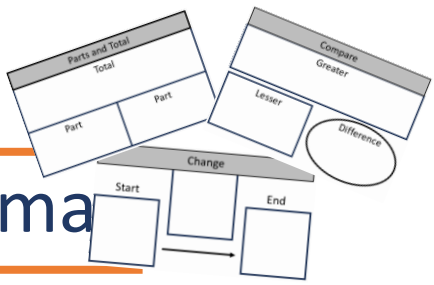
Understand the Schema?

Is problem dealing with a total, parts, change, compare, equal groups?



Reread and

Build the Schema



Build the problem using a graphic organizer.



Summarize and Solve



+ - x ÷ =

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CUBS Strategy

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CUBS Strategy

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CUBS Strategy — Classroom Implementation Guide

Step-by-step guide for teaching math word problems

C

STEP 1 · COMPREHEND

Read the problem — understand what's happening

→ Read the problem aloud together, then ask: "What is this problem about? Tell me in your own words."

→ Circle key nouns — who or what the problem involves. No numbers yet.

→ Have students retell the story to a partner before moving on.

Tip: Resist pointing out numbers here — pure comprehension of context comes first.

U

STEP 2 · UNDERSTAND THE SCHEMA

Reread — identify the problem type

→ Reread slowly, looking for the structure of the problem. Ask: "Is something being joined, separated, compared, or split into equal groups?"

→ Underline action words (gave away, altogether, more than, each) that signal the schema.

→ Students name the type and explain why: "This is a ___ problem because ___."

Tip: This is the deepest step — spend the most time here, especially early in the year.

B

STEP 3 · BUILD THE SCHEMA

Reread — fill in the graphic organizer

→ Students select the matching graphic organizer and reread to pull out numbers and unknowns.

→ Fill in known values; write "?" for what is unknown. Model: "I know the total is 24. I don't know one part, so I write a question mark."

→ Check: does the organizer match the story? If not, revisit Step 2.

Tip: Laminated organizers with dry-erase markers are great for repeated practice.

S

STEP 4 · SUMMARIZE AND SOLVE

Write the equation — solve and check

→ Use the graphic organizer to write a number sentence. Ask: "What operation does this schema require?"

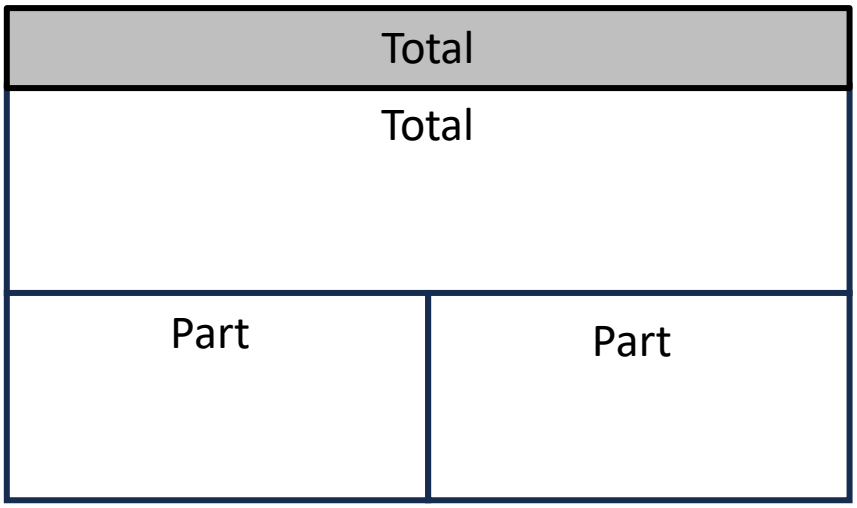
→ Solve using any strategy. Write a complete answer sentence tied to the story context.

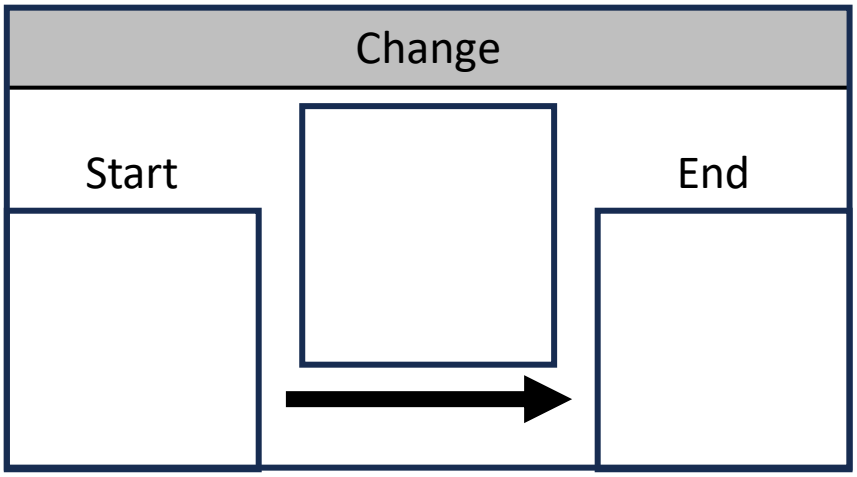
→ Check: reread the problem with the answer plugged in — does it make sense?

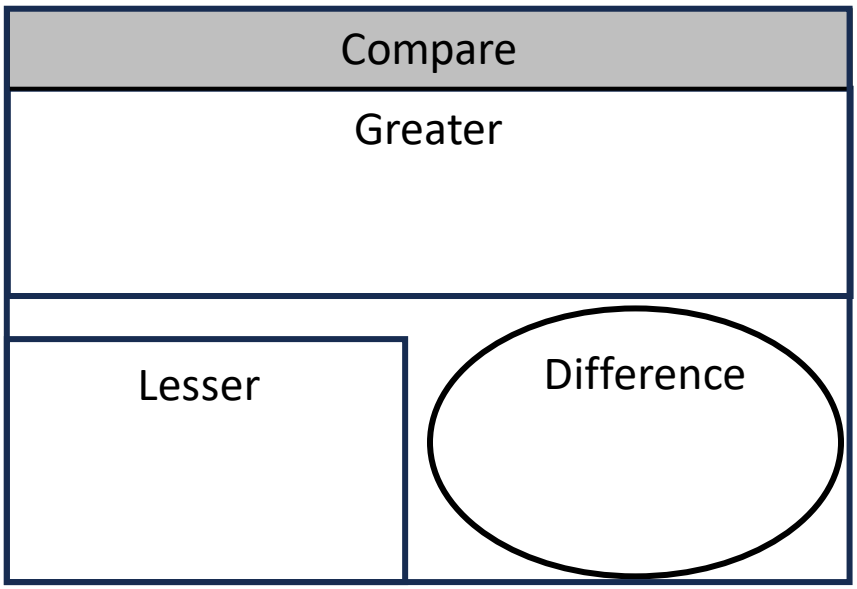
Tip: Require a labeled sentence every time — "There are 15 apples left." — to close the loop back to comprehension.

Rollout suggestion: Introduce one letter at a time over several days before using the full process. Model each step with think-alouds, then move to partner work, then independent practice. Post an anchor chart with all four steps visible throughout the unit.

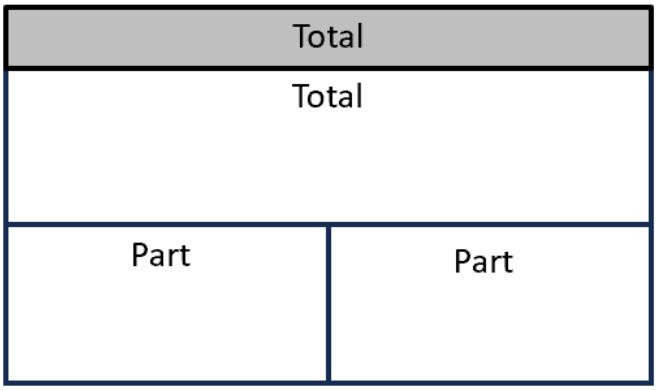
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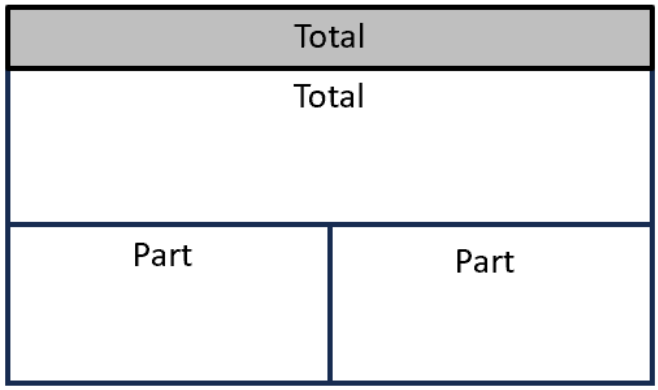


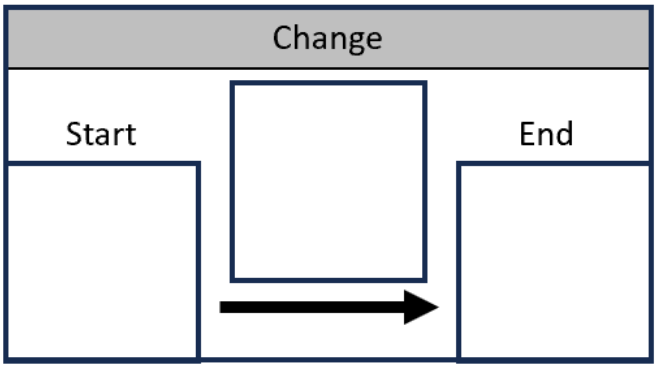


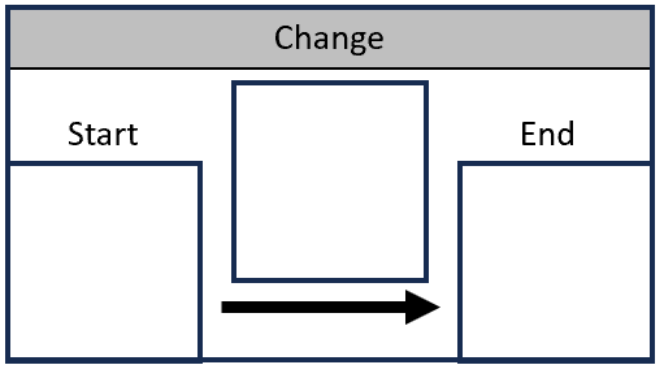


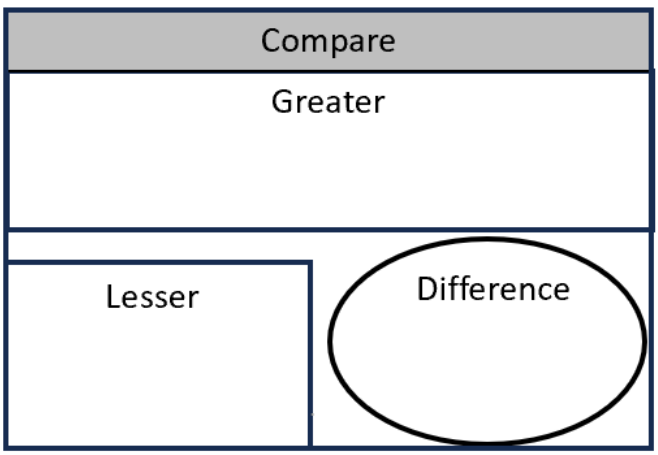
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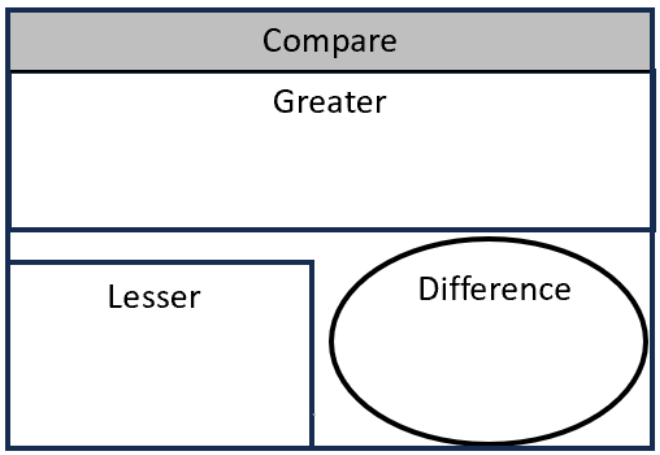




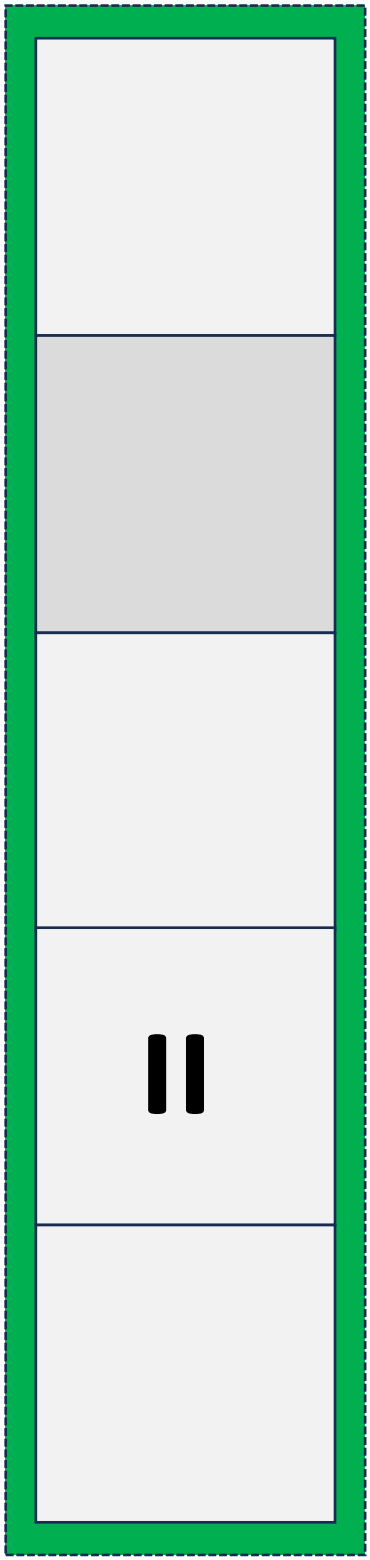


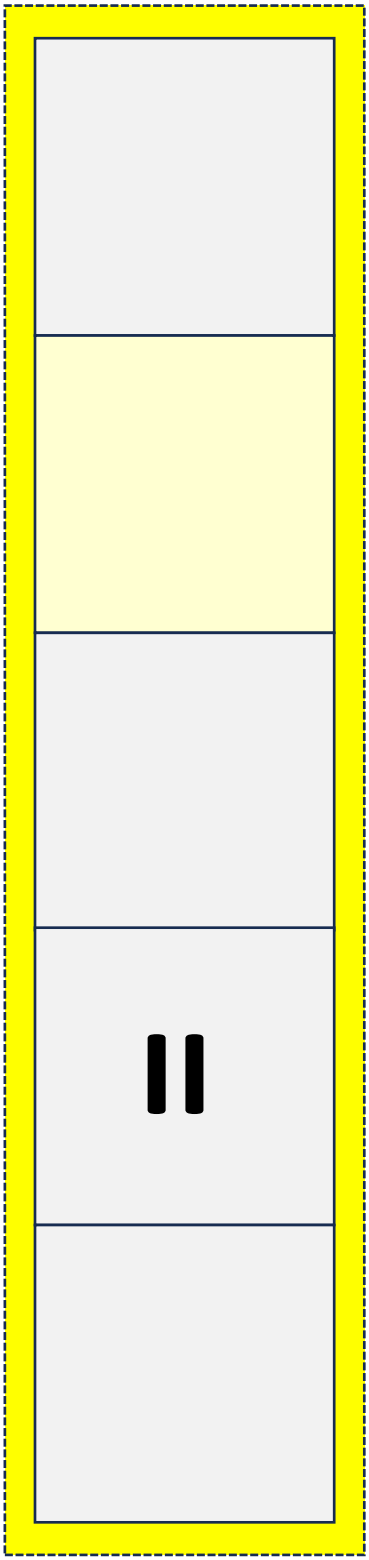


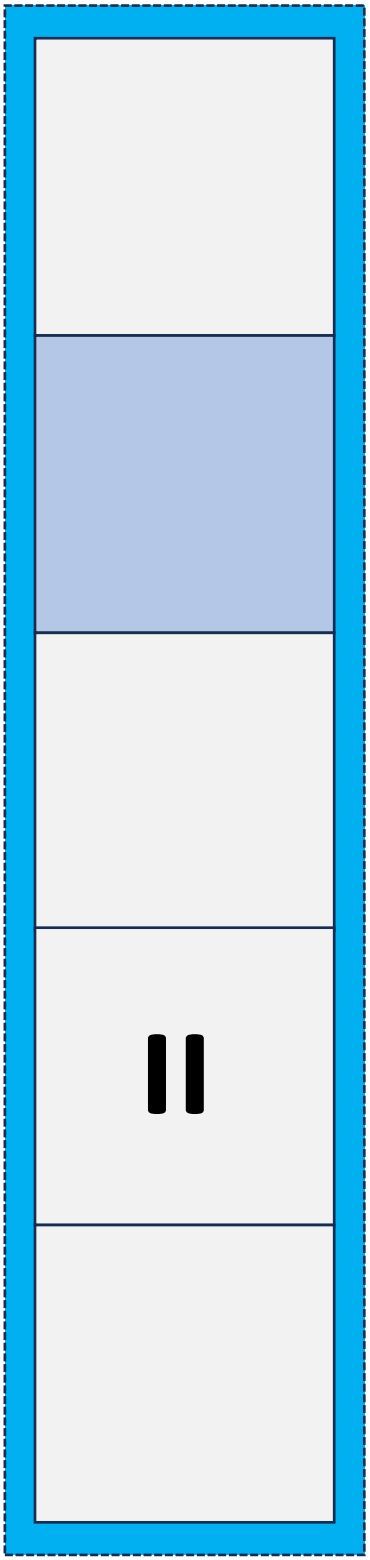




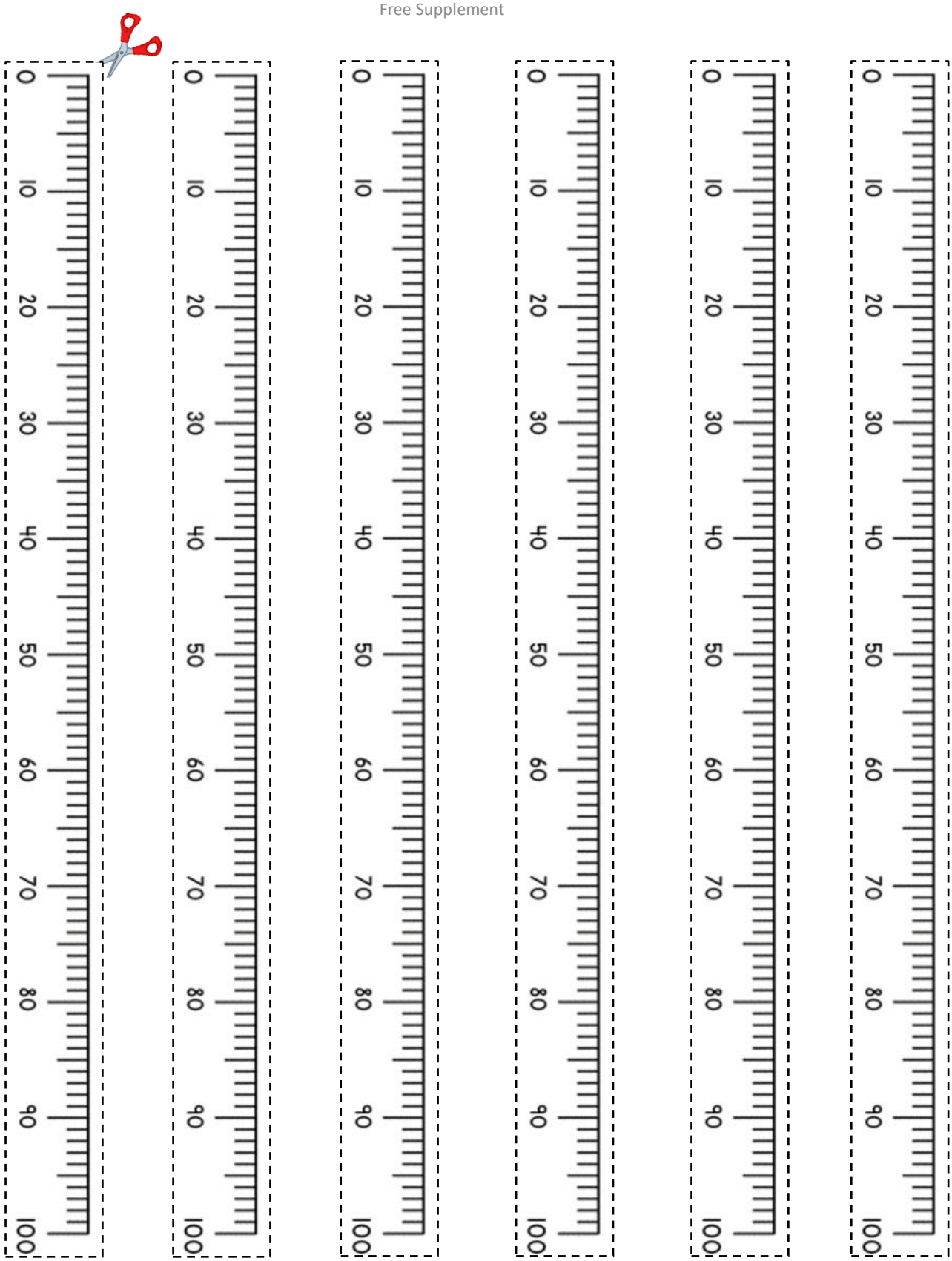
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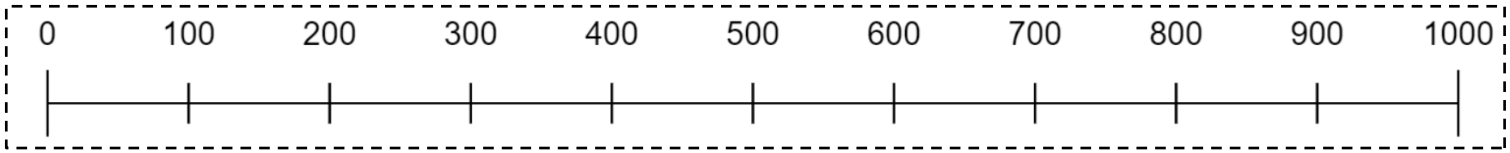


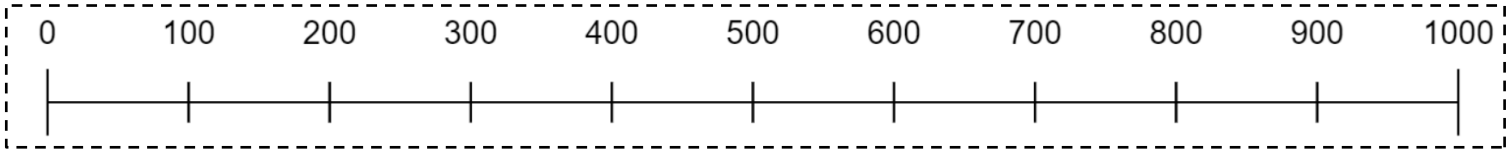


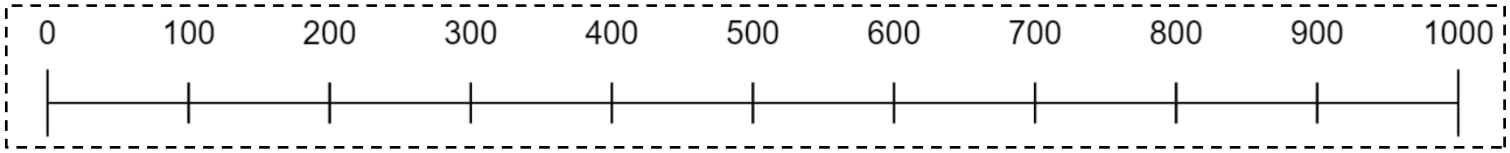
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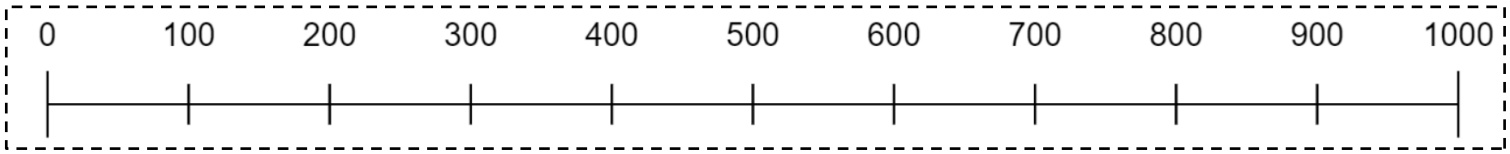


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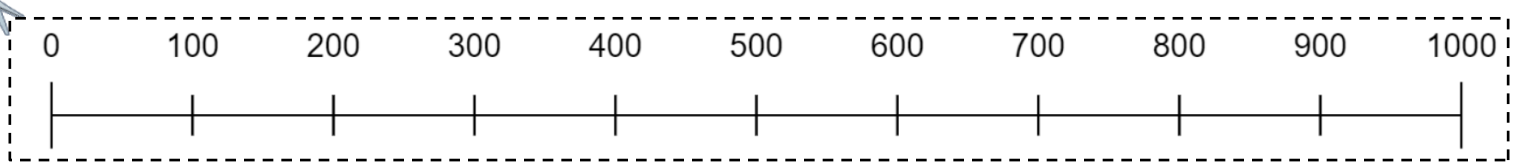












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Addition & Subtraction
Result Unknown

The result unknown section has two types of problems: change problems, where the result of the change is unknown, and total or combining problems, where the total of the combined parts is unknown.

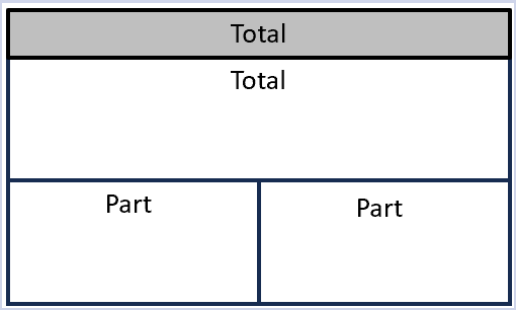
(Total: Part/Part/Whole Problems):

- Total or combining problems involve situations where the result of combining the parts is unknown.
- These are sometimes referred to as part/part/whole problems because they involve breaking down a whole into parts or combining parts to find the whole.

Total: Result Unknown

Tom had 8 blue marbles and 5 red marbles. How many marbles does he have total?

8 + 5 = ?



The unknown is the sum or total.

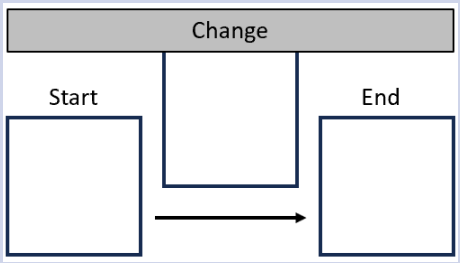
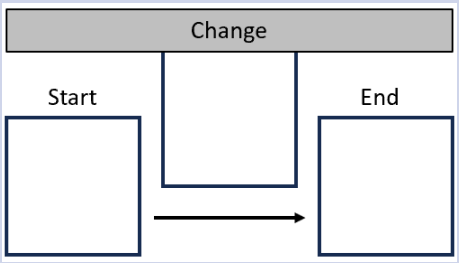
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Addition & Subtraction
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Change Problems (Joining or Separating Problems):

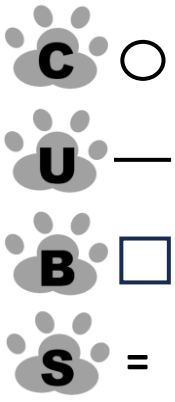
- In change problems, the result is unknown because some kind of change occurs, such as an increase or decrease in quantity.
- These problems often involve scenarios where items are added together (joining) or taken away from each other (separating).

Increase Change: Result Unknown	Decrease Change: Result Unknown
Tom has 8 apples. Lisa gave him 5 apples. How many apples does Tom have all together?	Tom has 13 apples. He gave 5 apples to Lisa. How many apples does Tom have now?
8 + 5 = ?	**13 - 5 = ?**
	
The unknown or end is the result of the change.	The unknown or end is the result of the change.

Name:

Addition / Subtraction Result Unknown to 100 Lesson 1

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Teacher Led 	Jason has **25** pieces of candy. Sam has **43** pieces of candy. **How many pieces of candy do they have altogether?**
Teacher Guided 	Cal saw 34 spiders. Fred saw 28 spiders. How many spiders did they see in all?
Independent Problem 	Jim drew 54 pictures. Emma drew 27 pictures. How many pictures did they draw combined?

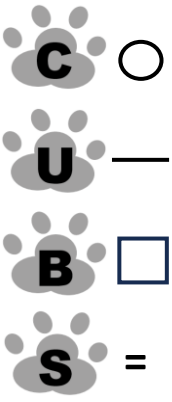
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Name:

Addition / Subtraction Result Unknown to 100 Lesson 2

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Teacher Led	
	There are **47** butterflies in a garden, and then **32** more butterflies flew into the garden. **How many butterflies are in the garden total?**

Teacher Guided	
	In a basket, there were 35 oranges and in another basket there were 19 oranges. How many oranges are there altogether?

Independent Problem	
	At the zoo, there were 16 monkeys playing in the trees, and 17 more monkeys joined them. How many monkeys in total?

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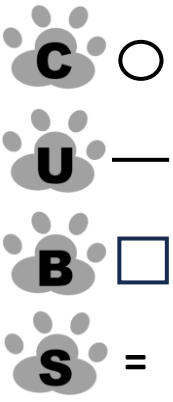
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Addition / Subtraction Result Unknown to 100 Lesson 3

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Main Menu

Teacher Led 	Lisa had **86** candies, and she ate **12** of them. **How many candies does Lisa have left?**
Teacher Guided 	Sarah had 67 stickers, but she gave 31 to her friend. How many stickers does Sarah have now?
Independent Problem 	In a box, there were 45 toy cars, 27 of them were taken out to play with. How many toy cars are still in the box?

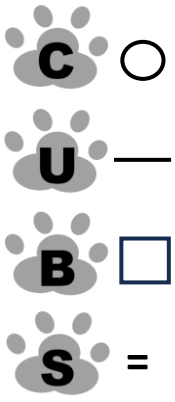
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Name:

Addition / Subtraction Result Unknown to 100 Lesson 4

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Teacher Led



Bella had **50** marbles, and she decided to give **26** of them to her younger brother**. How many marbles does Bella have now?**

Teacher Guided



A bakery had 42 apple pies, and they sold 28 of them in the morning. How many apple pies are still available for the afternoon customers?

Independent Problem



Tom collected 70 seashells at the beach, but he accidentally dropped 25 of them back into the ocean. How many seashells does he have left?

Main Menu

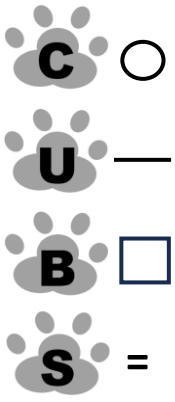
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Name:

Addition / Subtraction Result Unknown to 100 Lesson 5

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Main Menu

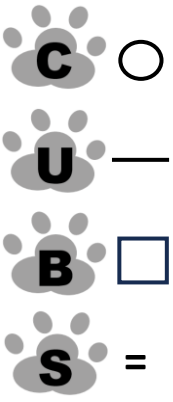
Teacher Led 	Emily had **33** apples, and her friend gave her **38** more. **How many apples does Emily have now?**
Teacher Guided 	In a toy store, there were 45 teddy bears on the shelf. The owner brought 45 more teddy bears from the back room. How many teddy bears are there in total?
Independent Problem 	James saved $35 last week and saved $48 this week. How much money has he saved in total?

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Name:

Addition / Subtraction Result Unknown to 100 Lesson 6

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Teacher Led 	A pizza has **24** slices, and Sarah ate **12** slices. **How many slices are left?**
Teacher Guided 	Sarah had 38 cookies, and she gave 14 cookies to her friend. How many cookies does Sarah have now?
Independent Problem 	There were 30 fish in the fish bowl, but 14 fish died. How many fish are left in the fish bowl now?

Main Menu

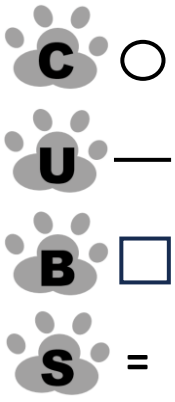
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Addition / Subtraction Result Unknown to 100 Lesson 7

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Teacher Led



In a basket, there are **56** oranges and in a bucket there are **26** oranges. **How many oranges are there in all?**

Teacher Guided



The zoo has 33 monkeys in one cage and 43 monkeys in another cage. How many monkeys are there in total?

Independent Problem



Sophie has 66 crayons in her bin and 25 crayons in her desk. How many crayons does Sophie have total?

Main Menu

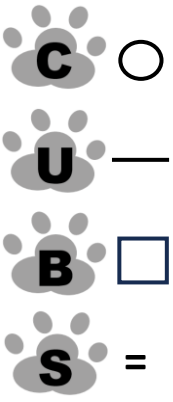
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Addition / Subtraction Result Unknown to 100 Lesson 8

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Main Menu

Teacher Led 	There are **58** ducks swimming in a pond, and **23** ducks swimming in another pond. **How many ducks are there altogether?**
Teacher Guided 	John has 47 balloons in his room, and 22 balloons in his basement. How many balloons does he have total?
Independent Problem 	Emma has 23 apples in her lunch box, and she has 53 apples in her locker. How many apples does Emma have in all?

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Name:

Addition / Subtraction Result Unknown to 100 Lesson 9

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Teacher Led	
C ○ U — B □ S =	There are **92** birds sitting in a tree, and **55** of them fly away. **How many birds are still in the tree?**

Teacher Guided	
	Emma has 50 balloons, and 35 of them accidentally popped. How many balloons does Emma have now?

Independent Problem	
	In a box, there are 49 candies, and Timmy eats 24 of them. How many candies are left in the box?

Main Menu

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Name:

Addition / Subtraction
Result Unknown to 100
Lesson 10: Assessment

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There are 36 pears in a fruit bowl, 18 of them are taken for a snack. How many pears are left in the bowl?

A farmer had 30 chickens and 25 pigs. How many animals does he have on his farm?

Jason has 32 toy cars, but he gives 14 of them to his friend. How many toy cars does Jason have now?

Main Menu

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Addition & Subtraction
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(Total: Part/Part/Whole Problems):

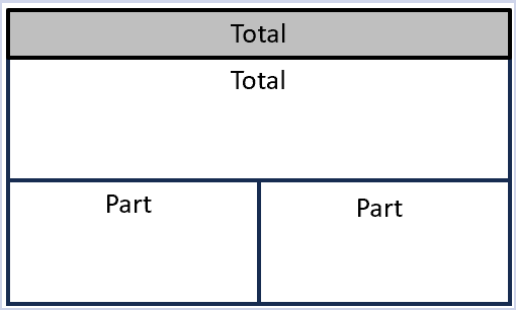
- Total or combining problems involve situations where the result of combining the parts is unknown.

- These are sometimes referred to as part/part/whole problems because they involve breaking down a whole into parts or combining parts to find the whole.

Total: Result Unknown

Tom had 8 blue marbles and 5 red marbles. How many marbles does he have total?

8 + 5 = ?



The unknown is the sum or total.

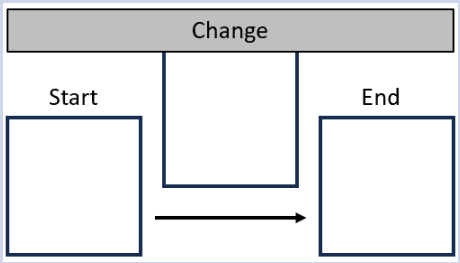
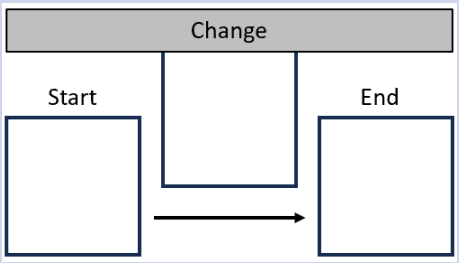
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Addition & Subtraction
Result Unknown

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Change Problems (Joining or Separating Problems):

- In change problems, the result is unknown because some kind of change occurs, such as an increase or decrease in quantity.
- These problems often involve scenarios where items are added together (joining) or taken away from each other (separating).

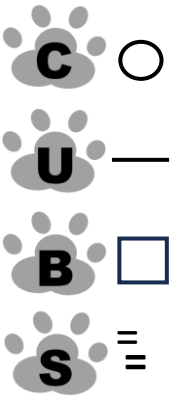
Increase Change: Result Unknown	Decrease Change: Result Unknown
Tom has 8 apples. Lisa gave him 5 apples. How many apples does Tom have all together?	Tom has 13 apples. He gave 5 apples to Lisa. How many apples does Tom have now?
8 + 5 = ?	**13 - 5 = ?**
	
The unknown or end is the result of the change.	The unknown or end is the result of the change.

Name:

Addition / Subtraction Result Unknown to 1,000 Lesson 1

Free Supplement

Main Menu

Teacher Led 	Jason has **225** pieces of candy. Sam has **543** pieces of candy. **How many pieces of candy do they have altogether?**
Teacher Guided 	Cal saw 434 spiders. Fred saw 428 spiders. How many spiders did they see in all?
Independent Problem 	Jim drew 254 pictures. Emma drew 327 pictures. How many pictures did they draw combined?

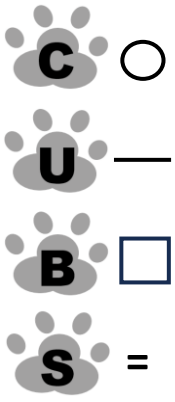
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Name:

Addition / Subtraction Result Unknown to 1,000 Lesson 2

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Teacher Led



There are **347** butterflies in a garden, and then **312** more butterflies flew into the garden. **How many butterflies are in the garden total?**

Teacher Guided



In a basket, there were 135 oranges and in another basket there were 119 oranges. How many oranges are there altogether?

Independent Problem



At the zoo, there were 116 monkeys playing in the trees, and 217 more monkeys joined them. How many monkeys in total?

Main Menu

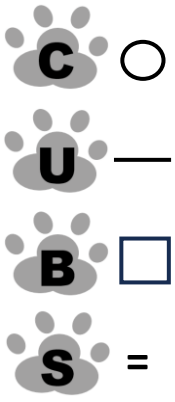
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Name:

Addition / Subtraction Result Unknown to 1,000 Lesson 3

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Main Menu

Teacher Led 	Lisa had **526** candies, and she ate **112** of them. **How many candies does Lisa have left?**
Teacher Guided 	Sarah had 415 stickers, but she gave 257 to her friend. How many stickers does Sarah have now?
Independent Problem 	In a box, there were 312 toy cars, 177 of them were taken out to play with. How many toy cars are still in the box?

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Addition / Subtraction Result Unknown to 1,000 Lesson 4

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Teacher Led	
C ○ U — B □ S =	Bella had **530** marbles, and she decided to give **126** of them to her younger brother**. How many marbles does Bella have now?**

Teacher Guided	
	A bakery had 642 apple pies, and they sold 258 of them in the morning. How many apple pies are still available for the afternoon customers?

Independent Problem	
	Tom collected 346 seashells at the beach, but he accidentally dropped 125 of them back into the ocean. How many seashells does he have left?

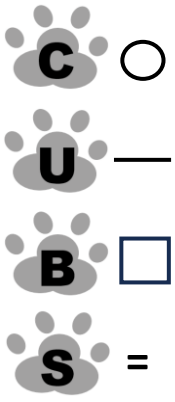
Main Menu

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Name:

Addition / Subtraction Result Unknown to 1,000 Lesson 5

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Teacher Led	Emily had **633** apples, and her friend gave her **89** more. **How many apples does Emily have now?**
	

Teacher Guided	In a toy store, there were 415 teddy bears on the shelf. The owner brought 85 more teddy bears from the back room. How many teddy bears are there in total?
	

Independent Problem	James saved $135 last week and saved $148 this week. How much money has he saved in total?
	

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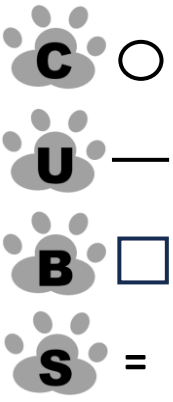
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Name:

Addition / Subtraction Result Unknown to 1,000 Lesson 6

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Main Menu

Teacher Led 	A jumbo pizza has **200** slices, and Sarah ate **25** slices. **How many slices are left?**
Teacher Guided 	Sarah had 318 cookies, and she gave 124 cookies to her friend. How many cookies does Sarah have now?
Independent Problem 	There were 200 fish in the fish tank, but 75 fish died. How many fish are left in the fish tank now?

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Addition / Subtraction Result Unknown to 1,000 Lesson 7

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Main Menu

Teacher Led	
C ○ U — B □ S =	In a basket, there are **156** oranges and in a bucket there are **86** oranges. **How many oranges are there in all?**

Teacher Guided	
	The zoo has 83 monkeys in one cage and 63 monkeys in another cage. How many monkeys are there in total?

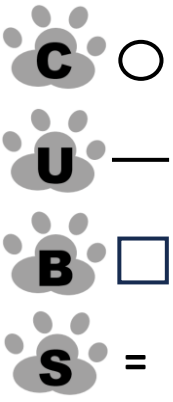
Independent Problem	
	Sophie has 266 crayons in her bin and 144 crayons in her desk. How many crayons does Sophie have total?

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Name:

Addition / Subtraction Result Unknown to 1,000 Lesson 8

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Teacher Led	
	There are **238** ducks swimming in a pond, and **212** ducks swimming in another pond. **How many ducks are there altogether?**

Teacher Guided	
	John has 237 balloons in his room, and 322 balloons in his basement. How many balloons does he have total?

Independent Problem	
	Emma has 43 apples in her lunch box, and she has 83 apples in her locker. How many apples does Emma have in all?

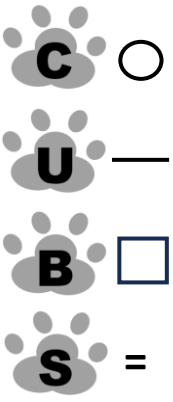
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Addition / Subtraction Result Unknown to 1,000 Lesson 9

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Teacher Led	
	There are **792** birds sitting in a tree, and **155** of them fly away. **How many birds are still in the tree?**

Teacher Guided	
	Emma has 125 balloons, and 35 of them accidentally popped. How many balloons does Emma have now?

Independent Problem	
	In a box, there are 149 candies, and Timmy eats 58 of them. How many candies are left in the box?

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