

Systematic Steps for Solving Word Problems

1. **Read** the problem, approach word problems as a reading comprehension activity first

2. **Ask** students:

- Who is in the problem?
- What are they doing?
- Tell me more about
- Is that a part or a whole? (Indicates what operation to use)

e. How do you know?

f. Is this problem:

Some, some more (+)

Some, went away (-)

g. What is the question asking?

3. **Generate** a number sentence to represent the first problem and solve using a place value chart.

4. **Repeat** steps 1-3 for the next step of the question.

5. **Write** a sentence to answer the question.

Who Do I Ask?



2-->3.



PLACE value to subtract

WITHOUT REGROUPING

$$\underline{\quad} - \underline{\quad} = \underline{\quad}$$

H	T	O

STEP 2. Dad brought 6 more cookies home from work. How many cookies are there now?

4.

PLACE value to add

WITHOUT REGROUPING

H	T	O

5. Rewrite the question as a statement to answer.

$$\underline{\quad} + \underline{\quad} = \underline{\quad}$$

