## TEACHER'S GUIDE 1-4



## Math Skills Builder Flash Drive

The flash drive contains an Image Library and printable PDF files of teaching resources and the student workbook. PDF reader software is required to view the PDFs.


Math Skills Builder Teacher's Guide: Units 1-4

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GROUP
Problem-Solving Strategy

## Overview

After completing Unit 1, students should be successful at creating sets. In Unit 2 , students will begin exploring ways to compose numbers from two different parts (adding), based on a part-part-whole model, in which the two parts are combined into a whole. The Group Graphic Organizer will be used to teach this concept. The five lessons provided for teaching the Group Problem-Solving Strategy are summarized below.

## Unit 2 Lesson Preview

## Lesson 1: Preteaching and Reviewing Concepts

Use this lesson plan to solve mathematical problems involving grouping. A time-delay procedure is used to preteach/review key vocabulary and concepts. The process of using manipulatives with the Group Graphic Organizer (a) to create and combine sets, and (b) to represent a number sentence to solve a math story problem is modeled for the student. Once students have demonstrated an understanding of this process following your model, provide several opportunities for students to use graphic organizers and manipulatives on their own. Provide coaching and feedback, but fade your support to allow students to learn
 to use graphic organizers and manipulatives to help them solve math problems independently.

## Lesson 2: Modeling the Compare ProblemSolving Strategy

Follow this lesson plan to introduce students to the Group Problem-Solving Strategy and to model how to perform each step of the Problem-Solving Checklist. This lesson also introduces students to the corresponding video of hand motions/signs, which you can review within the software/app, or on the DVD provided. Repeat this lesson as needed until students understand how to use each step in the Problem-Solving Checklist. As you model each step, give students a chance to perform each action. Provide coaching and feedback. Problems from the Real-World Problem Solver workbook are used for modeling in this lesson. (Data of the student's performance are not collected during lessons that
 model the procedure.)

## Lesson 3: Providing Guided Practice



Once students have general knowledge of how to perform each step of the Problem-Solving Checklist, follow the Lesson 3 plan to give students practice using the Group ProblemSolving Strategy independently with planned prompting when needed. The Real-World Problem Solver workbook provides three story themes-six problems for each-for the student to practice using the Group Problem-Solving Strategy. Choose a theme and corresponding pages from the student workbook, provide the required materials, and follow this lesson plan to give students practice in independently solving Group math problems.

## Lesson 4: Providing Independent Practice via Software

After students have used the Problem-Solving Checklist and have knowledge of how to perform each step, follow this lesson plan to give them additional independent practice. The app/software provides two additional themes and randomizes the numbers occurring within the story problems, giving students a multitude of math story problems to solve. Use this lesson plan to give students practice in independently solving Group math story problems using software.

## Lesson 5: Generalizing Skills via Videos

When students have shown mastery of the Group ProblemSolving Strategy, follow this lesson plan. Lesson 5 is designed to provide real-world video simulations of math story problems. Videos are provided for six additional Group math story problems from two themes.

## Using the Lesson Plans

For all lessons, the green script indicates what to say as you teach and the black text tells you what to do. Words in all caps (e.g., BIG) indicate to emphasize that word. Words [in brackets] indicate to substitute information as appropriate to the lesson or the math story problem you are focusing on.

## Providing Support for Different Types of Learners

Use these ideas for nonverbal students:

- The majority of time, nonverbal students can participate without any additional supports by pointing to their responses in the Real-World Problem Solver workbook.
- Response Cards are provided to request Read, please; Help me; and I'm finished.
- Response options can also be programmed into a student's AAC device (see the Materials list in each lesson).

Use these ideas for beginning writers or nonwriters, when required to write on the graphic organizer and Number Sentence Cards.

- Have students copy the words (or just the first letter of the words) from the story problem.
- Have students copy from your model.
- Create response options that students can select and place on their graphic organizers.
- Use a magnetic circle for students who struggle with drawing circles or draw the circle for them.


Use plastic numerals for students who struggle with writing numbers.

## Preteaching and Reviewing Concepts

## Objectives

■ Identify the symbol for add: +
■ Identify the vocabulary words: add, group, same, different

- Match add and combine to the plus sign (+)

■ Create sets to represent a number sentence
■ Solve addition problems with sums to 10 using number sentences

## Materials

■ Vocabulary and Symbol Cards: add, combine, group, same, different, plus sign (+); distractor cards: minus sign (-), take away

- 2-column T-chart
- Teaching (large) Group Graphic Organizer
- Number Sentence Card; 1 per student
- Student (small) Group Graphic Organizer; 1 per student
- Counting Cubes; 10 of each color per student
- Marking pen and eraser; 1 per student


## Preparation

Write the symbol + at the top of one column of the T-chart and at the top of the other column.

## Notes

- The purpose of this lesson is to prepare students to solve mathematical problems involving grouping. Students first review the vocabulary words and symbols associated with Group problems. Then they become familiar with the Group Graphic Organizer without the context of a story problem. (That is, neither the Group Rule nor math story problems are used during this introductory lesson.) Students learn how to use manipulatives (i.e., Counting Cubes) with the Group Graphic Organizer.

■ Green text indicates what to say to students; text in all CAPITAL letters indicates to emphasize the word. Substitute information [in brackets] as appropriate.

## Vocabulary Words and Symbols

You'll begin the lesson by using a constant time-delay procedure to review the following vocabulary words and symbols: add, combine, group, and the plus (+) sign. Next, you'll check students' comprehension by having them match words to the corresponding symbol and/or indicate the word when you give its definition.

## Review (Using the Constant Time-Delay Procedure)

Place 4 Vocabulary and/or Symbol Cards in front of the student (the target card and 3 distractor cards). Point to the cards and remind students of what each means: add means "to put together"; same means "alike or identical"; different means "not the same"; a group is "a number of things close together"; and the plus sign (+) means "to add." Use the constant time-delay procedure to review the words and the plus sign (+).

| Round 1: 0-Second Time Delay |  |
| :--- | :--- |
| Step 1 | Present the target Vocabulary or Symbol Card and 3 distractor cards. |$|$| Step 2 | Point to the target card and name it. While still pointing to the card, say, <br> This is the word [add]. Touch [add] or This is [the plus sign]. Touch <br> [the plus sign]. |
| :--- | :--- |
| Step 3 | Provide feedback. <br> - Give specific praise for touching the correct word, Yes, [add]. Good <br> job touching [add]. [Add] means ["to put together"]. <br> - If the student does not touch the correct card, use a physical prompt <br> to guide the student to locate the word and then give praise, Very <br> good. You pointed to [add]. Good job touching [add]. [Add]] <br> means ["to put together"]]. |
| There should be no errors in this round. |  |

## Comprehension

1 Display the T-chart. Point to the + and - symbols at the top of each column.
Place Vocabulary Cards or Symbol Cards for add, combine, subtract, take away, the minus sign (-), and the plus sign (+) in front of the students. Review the definitions of the words. Then, have students sort the cards into the appropriate columns. Say, Match [add] to the [plus] sign or Match this word to the correct math sign.
2 Place the Vocabulary Cards for group, add, combine, subtract, and take away in front of the students. Ask students to indicate the card as you give the definition, Find the word that means ["a number
 of things close together"].

## Graphic Organizer

Introduce students to the Group Graphic Organizer and the Number Sentence Card.
1 Distribute 10 of each color of Counting Cubes, a Group Graphic Organizer, a marking pen and eraser, and a Number Sentence Card to each student. Say, You already know how to make sets. Today we are going to learn how to COMBINE sets together.
2 Write any numbers (1-9) in the first two boxes and + in the circle on each student's Number Sentence Card. Point to the first number in the number sentence, and model
 making a set using the Counting Cubes. Say, See the first number in this number sentence? I'll make a set of [2] in the small purple circle on this graphic organizer. Now, you make a set of [2] in your small purple circle, too. Wait for students to respond.

| Praise independent <br> correct response | Or, if needed, assist using least intrusive prompt |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Verbal | $\rightarrow$ |  |  |  |  | Specific verbal $\rightarrow$ | Model |

3 Point to the second number you wrote on the Number Sentence Card and model making a corresponding set with the Counting Cubes. Say, I'll make a set of [4] in the small green circle. Now you make a set of [4] in your small green circle, too.

| Praise independent correct response | Or, if needed, assist using least intrusive prompt |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Verbal $\rightarrow$ | Specific verbal $\rightarrow$ | Model |
| Excellent job! You made a set of [4]. | If no response, say, How many Counting Cubes go in the small green circle? <br> Wait for the student to respond. | If still no response, say, Put [4] counters in the small green circle. <br> Wait for the student to respond. | If an incorrect response or still no response, say, Watch me. Make the set in the student's small green circle, then move the Counting Cubes away. Say, Your turn. Give the student a chance to retry. Use hand-over-hand prompting if the student makes a mistake on the retry. |

Model combining the two small sets to form one big set. Say, I'll combine both small sets together and move them into the big blue circle to make one BIG set. Then, I will count them to add. Now you combine both small sets together to make one big set-a big GROUP. Wait for the students to respond.

| Praise independent <br> correct response | Or, if needed, assist using least intrusive prompt |  |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Verbal | $\rightarrow$ | Specific verbal $\rightarrow$ | Model |

Model systematically counting the cubes then writing the corresponding numeral as the sum in the box after the = sign in the number sentence. Say, Now you count the cubes and write your total number in the empty box on your number sentence.

6 Repeat these steps with two or three more examples, changing the addition number sentence and modeling the process of using the graphic organizer and manipulatives to solve other addition number sentences.

## Independent Use

Encourage students to independently use the Group Graphic Organizer.
1 When students have begun to grasp the procedure, begin to fade your model. Provide students with an opportunity to independently solve a number sentence using the graphic organizer and the manipulatives.
2 Write a different number sentence (with a sum of 10 or less) on each student's Number Sentence Card. Say, Show me how to solve your number sentence using your Group Graphic Organizer and your Counting Cubes. Use the least intrusive prompt to assist them.
3 Make sure students write the final answer in the number sentence immediately after solving it.

| Praise independent correct response | Or, if needed, assist using least intrusive prompt |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Verbal $\rightarrow$ | Specific verbal $\rightarrow$ | Model |
| Excellent job! You combined the two small sets together to make one BIG set: $[2+3=5]$. | If no response, say, Make your sets. <br> OR <br> Combine your sets together to add. <br> Wait for the student to respond. | If still no response, say, Move your two small sets into the BIG circle and count them altogether. <br> Wait for the student to respond. | If an incorrect response or still no response, say, Watch me. Move the two small sets to the big group circle in an organized array (e.g., a line) and count the cubes aloud. Move the Counting Cubes back to the original sets. Say, Your turn. Give the student a chance to retry. Use hand-over-hand prompting if the student makes a mistake on the retry. |

## Troubleshooting Tips

If a student is having difficulty, collect data while the student solves the number sentence. Analyze the student's errors to determine where the difficulty lies.

- If a student continues to make errors when creating a set of 5 or more, return to Unit 1 and do more practice.
- If counting the cubes in the large set is challenging, have the student organize the Counting Cubes into a line, then touch and move each cube up while counting. If needed, draw a line above the Counting Cubes and have the student push each over the line when counting. Fade this support as soon as possible.

Repeat this lesson one or two more days or until students are fluently using the graphic organizer and manipulatives to make sets and group them together to add and solve addition number sentences with a sum of 10 or less. Then move on to Lesson 2.

