

Intervention Name: Draw to Clarify

Grades: K-12

Description:

Making a drawing of an applied or “word”, problem is one tool that students can use to help them find the solution. An additional benefit is that it can reveal to the teacher any student misunderstandings about how to set up or solve the word problem.

Materials:

Math problems (limit of 6 per worksheet), drawing paper or whiteboards

Steps:

To introduce students to the drawing strategy...

- Teacher explains to students that making a picture of a word problem sometimes makes the problem clearer and easier to solve.
- Teacher and students then independently create drawings of each of the problem on the worksheet.
- Next, the students show their drawings for each problem, explaining each drawing and how it relates to the word problem.
- The teacher also participates, explaining his or her drawings to the class or group.
- Then students are directed independently to make drawings as an intermediate problem-solving step when they are faced with challenging word problem.