How to Solve a Math Word Problem

FIRST

- Read the problem.

- Eva has three marbles. Emily has 10 marbles. How many marbles do Eva and Emily have in all?

Second

- Figure out what you **ALREADY KNOW**. What facts does the problem give you?

- Eva has three marbles. Emily has ten marbles. How many marbles do Eva and Emily have in all?

THIRD

- Make a chart or table to show what you already know.

EVA
3 marbles

EMILY
10 marbles

FOURTH

- Identify the question. Make sure you understand what it is that you need to find out to answer the question.

- Eva has three marbles. Emily has 10 marbles. How many marbles do Eva and Emily have **in all**?

FIFTH

- Figure out your **strategy**. Here are some strategies you can use:
- Adding
- Subtracting
- Multiplying
- Dividing
- Counting
- Making tally marks
- Drawing a picture
- Making a graph
- Can you think of any more??

Eva has three marbles. Emily has 10 marbles. How many marbles do Eva and Emily have **in all?**

- For this problem **my strategy would be to add** because I want to find out how many marbles Emily and Eva have IN ALL.

SIXTH

- **APPLY** your strategy. Create a number model, chart, or graph.
- My strategy was to add so I can do that here with a number model. Put a box around your number model and label it.
- 3+10= 13   Number model

SEVENTH

- Circle your answer. Make sure you label it with the unit.

- 13 marbles

EIGHTH

- Write an **explanation** using sentences.

- Eva and Emily have thirteen marbles in all. I know this because I added the two marble amounts: 3 and 10. I counted up from 10 until I got to 13.

REVIEW

- Read the problem.
- Figure out what you ALREADY KNOW.
- Make a chart or table.
- Identify the question.
- Figure out your **strategy**.
- **APPLY** your strategy.
- Circle your answer.
- Write an **explanation** using sentences.