

Daily Math Puzzlers

Contents and Introduction

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Math Problems or Tricky Puzzles?

Teaching kids of any age to solve math problems can be a daunting task, but introducing these skills to young children is especially challenging. Math content is relatively easy to teach, but teaching kids how to think through a problem in a logical manner is most definitely NOT easy! Yet why should we teach math at all if our students can't apply their knowledge to everyday life? Even young children need to be able to apply measurement concepts, understand money, tell time, and use math content to solve real life problems.

How do you help children make the transition from math computation to problem solving? Treat problems as tricky “brainteasers” and fun puzzles! These early problem-solving experiences are critical. When it comes to solving problems, attitude is more important than aptitude. Children who learn to view problems as fun puzzles will persist when they encounter difficulties, applying a variety of strategies in amazingly creative ways and building self confidence along the way.

The Daily Math Puzzler program is a simple step-by-step approach designed to introduce children to problem solving in a fun, non-threatening way. Because the program takes just 10 to 15 minutes a day, it can easily become a regular part of your math instruction. Within days of starting the program, you and your students will look forward to starting each math lesson with a Daily Math Puzzler!