

Math Empowers



Creating Math Talk Communities

As educators, we are challenged to engage our students in meaningful math talk that allows them to construct viable arguments and critique others' reasoning. When students engage in meaningful math talk, they are able to increase their conceptual understanding and deepen their content knowledge. There are five strategies that are helpful in supporting the development of more meaningful math talk:

1. Discuss why math talk is important.
2. Teach students how to listen and respond.
3. Introduce sentence stems. (See page 252)
4. Contrast explanation versus justification.
5. Give an example.

Be sure to read the attached NCTM article for more information.

NUMBERLESS WORD PROBLEMS

"They just add all the numbers. It doesn't matter what the problem says."

Many educators have expressed this thought especially when referencing struggling students. Fortunately, Dr. Eric Milou has shared another valuable resource that could prove to be the perfect remedy. **NUMBERLESS WORD PROBLEMS** allow "... students the opportunity to develop a better understanding of the underlying structure of word problems." This is achieved through a scaffolding approach and effective questioning. Consider presenting NWP to your students utilizing the links below and learn more from the creator, Brian Bushart (formerly Stockus).

Numberless Word Problems
<http://tinyurl.com/jhyhzut>

Joining Situations:

[Join-Result Unknown](#)

[Join-Change Unknown](#)

[Join-Start Unknown](#)

Separating Situations:

[Separate-Result Unknown](#)

[Separate-Change Unknown](#)

[Separate-Start Unknown](#)

Introducing NWP: <http://tinyurl.com/hi4vbfx>

Writing NWP: <http://tinyurl.com/gq2g8n8>



End of Year Reminder!

Be sure to give students the opportunity to review and extend their knowledge of part-part-whole

relationships by previewing first grade concepts, using the "Getting Ready for Grade 1" materials included in your GO Math! Planning Guide. Consider using the following lessons:

Lesson 1: Hands on Add One

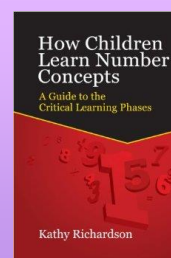
Lesson 3: Hands on Add on a Ten Frame

Lesson 4: Part-Part-Whole

Lesson 10: Missing Part



Encourage students to participate in Greg Tang's Summer Math Challenge. Students complete a [game board](#) over the summer, using the online games and books at GregTangMath.com.



Check out this [book study blog](#) by our favorite math coach Donna Boucher.

