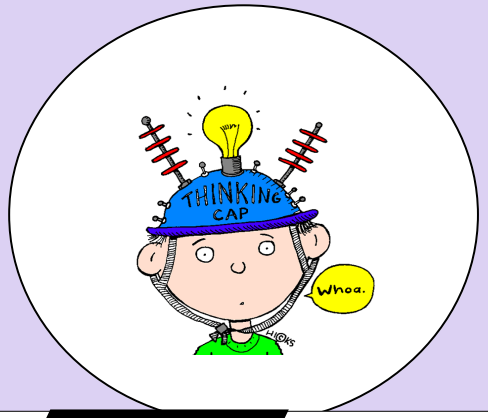

Check List

Did you restate the question in your own words? ___

Did you check text features, vocabulary, and clue words? ___

Did you circle the facts needed to solve the problem? ___

Did you pick a problem solving strategy? ___

Does your answer make sense? ___

When you utilize the answer in the problem, is it correct? ___

Can you explain how you found your solution? ___

Super Work!

Try It!

MA.6.S.6.2

The math team at Pleasantville Middle School won many awards at mathematics competitions over the last 6 years. The awards won by the school are shown in the table below with the exception of the first year.

Year	Number of Awards
1	?
2	5
3	4
4	3
5	3
6	4

If the mean for the number of awards won over the last six years is 4, how many awards did they win the first year?

A. 5

B. 4

C. 3

D. 2

MATHEMATICS

STEP IT UP

Problem Solving Protocol for Students

Curriculum and Instruction
Division of Mathematics, Science, and Advanced Academic Programs
Miami-Dade County Public Schools

STEP It Up
Problem Solving Protocol

Study the problem.

Underline the question being asked. Re-state the question in your own words.

Think, analyze, and identify text features, vocabulary, and clue words. Put a check above each one.

Examine the problem, facts, and clues. Circle the facts you need. Cross out extraneous (not needed) information.

Pick a word problem solving strategy.

It is time to solve!

Understand your solution.

- Is your answer reasonable?
- Did you try out your answer in the problem to see if it works?
- Did you write your answer in a complete sentence?
- Can you explain how you found your solution?

Text Features

TEXT FEATURES

- ☑ bold print
- ☑ vocabulary words
- ☑ illustrations
- ☑ keys
- ☑ legend
- ☑ charts
- ☑ diagrams
- ☑ italics
- ☑ clue words
- ☑ graphics
- ☑ scale
- ☑ maps
- ☑ tables

PROBLEM SOLVING STRATEGIES

Look for a pattern
Model drawing/visual diagram
Use a simpler problem
Guess and check
Make a table/graph/organized list
Work Backward
Logical and/or Proportional Reasoning
Write an equation

Clue Words for Math Operations
To be Used in Context

+	−
sum	subtract
total	difference
plus	reduced by
how many in all	less than
altogether	decreased by
combined	how many more than
increased by	fewer

x	÷
times	quotient of
product of	divided by
three groups of two (example)	split into equal groups
fraction of a number	how many of each
decimal of a number	cut up in equal parts
percent of a number	small groups in a large number
multiplied by	per group