Common Core teachers will ask students to think about questions and to question answers.

Meaningful Math $\$\$\$

Common Core STANDARDS FOR MATHEMATICAL PRACTICE

1. Make sense of problems and persevere in solving them.
2. Reason abstractly and quantitatively.
3. Construct viable arguments and critique the reasoning of others.
4. Model with mathematics.
5. Use appropriate tools strategically.
6. Attend to precision.
7. Look for and make use of structure.
8. Look for and express regularity in repeated reasoning.

What do those practice standards mean?
That finding an answer is not the destination—it’s how you get there and the patterns you find as you solve a problem.
MATH ASSESSMENT CONTENT DEFINITIONS
You can set up this assessment with terms that your students learn or use it as a pre-assessment. This is an example of a comprehensive pre-assessment to start the school year.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Word or Symbol</th>
<th>What It Means—explain in your own words or put an example.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
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I can solve a word problem strategically!

Common Core Math Practice Standard 1: Make sense of problems and persevere in solving them.

Note to Teachers: This organizer is designed to guide a student. It also is an instant assessment. If students cannot complete steps 1, 2, or 3, the teacher learns what the kinds of help the student needs to comprehend a word problem and decide which strategies and skills to use.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>What is the question asking me to figure out?</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>How will I solve it?</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>What information do I need to solve it?</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

You may complete it by yourself or…

**pair and share**—work together with another student to solve it

or

**pair to compare**—solve it yourself then compare your work with another student’s
Math Problem Solver

The Problem—What will you figure out?

Your Strategy

The Solution

Answer:
# MATH SCAFFOLD

Common Core Math Practice Standard 1: *Make sense of problems and solve them persistently.*

1. **What are you going to figure out?**

2. **How** will you solve the problem?

3. **What information** will you use?

4. Solve it here. If you need more space use the back of the page.

5. **What is your answer?**

6. **How did you get it?** Tell **what you did.**

7. **Tell why** you solved it **this way.**

*This guide was developed through funding from the Institute for Education Sciences, US Department of Education*
This Week’s Math
This graphic organizer applies to all math standards and is designed to guide students’ clarifying of what they learn in math each week.

Topic: ______________________________________________________________
(Write what the focus of the work this week was.)

What are some important words to know when thinking about this math topic?
There are three columns. If the word also can be shown as a symbol, put that symbol in the third column.

<table>
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What’s important to know about this math topic?
______________________________________________________________________
______________________________________________________________________
______________________________________________________________________