

Unit Guide

Teaching Third Graders about Fractions through Problem Solving

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This unit will focus on problem solving strategies for third graders and how to implement those strategies to work with fractions. As the Common Core State Standards for Mathematics begin to focus our instruction, this unit will help to develop understanding and resources to effectively use the standards in my classroom. This unit was designed with a third grade class in mind, however lower grades and higher grades would benefit from some of the concepts introduced and discussed. When you say you are developing a unit on problem solving, many teachers think that the unit will include old fashion, customary word problems involving trains traveling from different cities and different speeds. In some minds, problem solving is synonymous with word problems. I am hoping that this unit dispels that interpretation and will help to broaden the understanding and deepen the level of use of problem solving strategies in the math classroom.