

Hands-On Equations: Student Worksheet

Hook

Using manipulatives allows students to better visualize mathematical concepts. The Hand-On Equations manipulatives help students "balance" the scale and "solve" equations. Students need to remember the property of equality, "whatever you do on one side of the equation, you must do to the other side"

Group Arrangement

Students work individually or in pairs

Tools

- Hands-On Equations Manipulatives
- Worksheet with balance scale

Procedure

1. Each student receives the Hands-On Equations kit.
2. Review the property of equality, "whatever you do on one side of the equals sign, you must do on the other side."
3. Review how to make zero sets.
4. Goal: to get the variable on one side of the equation by itself.
5. Demonstrate examples: $x = 5$
 $0 = 0$, then $-2 + 2 = 0$
 $x + 3 = 5$
 $2x = x - 2$
 $3x - 1 = x + 5$
6. Have students demonstrate $3x - 1 = x + 5$.
7. Hand out the Hands-On worksheet.