

Justify Your Answer

Cross-Curricular Focus: Reasoning Skills



You answer questions all the time. How do you know that your answer is reasonable? It does not matter what subject you are studying. Your answer needs to make sense. Follow these steps after you get an answer.

1. Read the question again. Make sure you understood what was being asked.
2. Read your answer. Does it match the question? Does the question ask how many? Your answer should be a number. Does it ask how much money? The answer should be a money amount. Does it ask why? The answer should be a reason.
3. Think about the question. Is there more than one way to answer it? Can you **justify**, or prove, your answer using information you read? Can you make a **sketch**? Can you solve a number problem in another way?
4. Make sure your final answer is neat and easy to read.

Name: _____

Answer the following questions based on the reading passage. Don't forget to go back to the passage whenever necessary to find or confirm your answers.

1) Why do you think it is important for your answer to make sense?

2) If the question asked why the boy went to the park, and your answer is 2:00 p.m., does your answer make sense?

3) What does justify mean?

4) Why do you start by reading the question again?

5) How can you justify your answer?
