

### **Step 3: SOLVE IT**

Students now use the strategy they have chosen to solve the problem. It is very important that they record their work in a way that lets them see what they have completed. It is possible they will discover that the strategy they chose is not as helpful as they thought it would be. Emphasize that they should not be discouraged, but rather choose a different strategy and try again.

### **Step 4: LOOK BACK**

After students have solved the problem, they should always check their answer by reading the problem again, looking back over each step, and checking their calculations. They should ask themselves:

- Did I answer the question asked in the problem?
- Is more than one answer possible?
- Is my math correct?
- Does my answer make sense? Is it reasonable?
- Can I explain why I think my answer is correct?