



Home Link Help: Number Stories

Grade 2, Home Link 9-4

Number stories provide children with opportunities to explore their problem solving strategies. For example, children have worked with situation diagrams (see *My Reference Book* pages 108-118w), drawing pictures, and modeling with counters. In this Home Link, children may apply some of their problem solving skills to a perimeter problem.

Help with Home Link Problems

The most important steps are for children to consider when problem solving are:

- Determine what the problem is asking you to do.
- Figure out what solution steps make sense.
- Find the answer.
- Check the answer and see if it is reasonable.

For the perimeter problem, children may benefit from drawing and labeling a picture of the fence.

Note that children may choose other ways to solve the problem. For example, they may want to draw a multipart Parts-Total diagram (see *My Reference Book* pages 108 and 109). They may want to make a list of the lengths of the four sides and add them.

To the right is a basic parts-total diagram:

Total	
Part	Part

Extra Practice Idea

Consider having your child estimate and then measure the perimeter of rectangular household objects. For example, a Kleenex box or a playing card, both have rectangular surfaces for which a child may measure to find the perimeter.