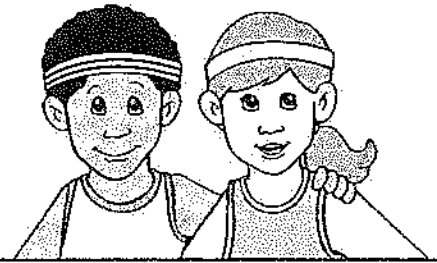


On Your Mark!

Sometimes it's hard to decide how to solve a problem. In some cases, it may be helpful to act it out. You can use objects to stand for people or things in the problem. Then you can move the objects around if you need to. Or you and your friends can role-play the action in the problem.



Getting started: Read problem 1. Then look back at the problem to help you answer the questions below. Write your answers on the lines provided.

Problem 1: Greg, Gayle, Galen, Glenda, and Garth are lining up at the starting line waiting for a race to begin. Gayle is standing directly to the left of Glenda. Galen is between Glenda and Garth. Greg is in lane 1. Glenda is not in lane 5. In what order are the runners lined up? _____

- What are you to find out? _____
- How many runners are there in all? _____
- Where is Greg standing? _____
Gayle? _____ Galen? _____
- What does the word *directly* mean in the second sentence? _____
- Is it hard to picture in your mind where all of the runners are standing? _____
- Would it help to use objects to stand for the runners and then move those objects around? Or would it help if 5 friends role-played the problem? Why? _____
- Which problem-solving strategy could you use? _____

Solving problem 1: Write the numbers 1–5 across the top of a sheet of paper. The numbers will stand for the track lanes. Cut out the pictures of the jerseys at the bottom of the page. Label each jersey with a different runner's name. Arrange the 5 jerseys on your sheet of paper to match the clues in the problem.

Problem 2: Greg, Gayle, Galen, and Glenda ran the mile race. Gayle won the race. Greg finished after Glenda. Galen finished last. In what place did Glenda finish the race? _____

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