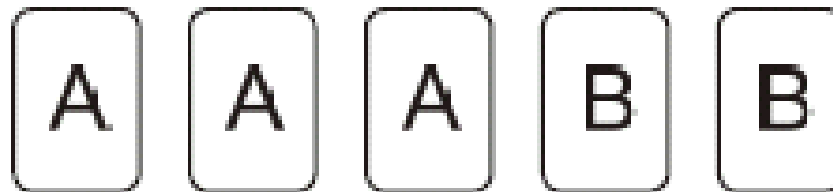


How we teach problem solving at West Lodge Primary

Using and Applying Curriculum Evening

A PROBLEM TO GET YOU STARTED...

Here are five number cards.



A and B stand for two different whole numbers.

The sum of all the numbers on all five cards is 30.

What could be the values of A and B?

USING AND APPLYING MATHEMATICS

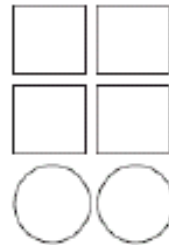
Why do we teach it?

- Uses learned mathematics in different contexts.
- Gives children the chance to explore interesting mathematics.
- Allows for the exploration of mathematical concepts in greater depth.

PROBLEM SOLVING

- Often focused on shape or number.
- Can be solved using different starting points.
- Requires a systematic approach.

What colour is each shape?



Clues

- Red is not next to grey.
- Blue is between white and grey.
- Green is not a square.
- Blue is on the right of pink.

COMMUNICATING

- Uses mathematics as a language.
- Can be solved using a range of strategies.
- Often uses real life scenarios.

Anna has 50 pencils.
She puts 5 pencils in each party bag.



How many bags does she put pencils in?

REASONING

- Asks pupils to understand and test a general statement.
- Can be more than one answer.
- Is more open ended and a lot more challenging.

‘A number that ends with 2 cannot be divided by three!’

FINAL THOUGHTS

- Explore all areas of mathematics.
- Focus on the process rather than the answer.
- Make mathematics fun.
- Use resources on nrich.maths.org to help engage children in mathematics