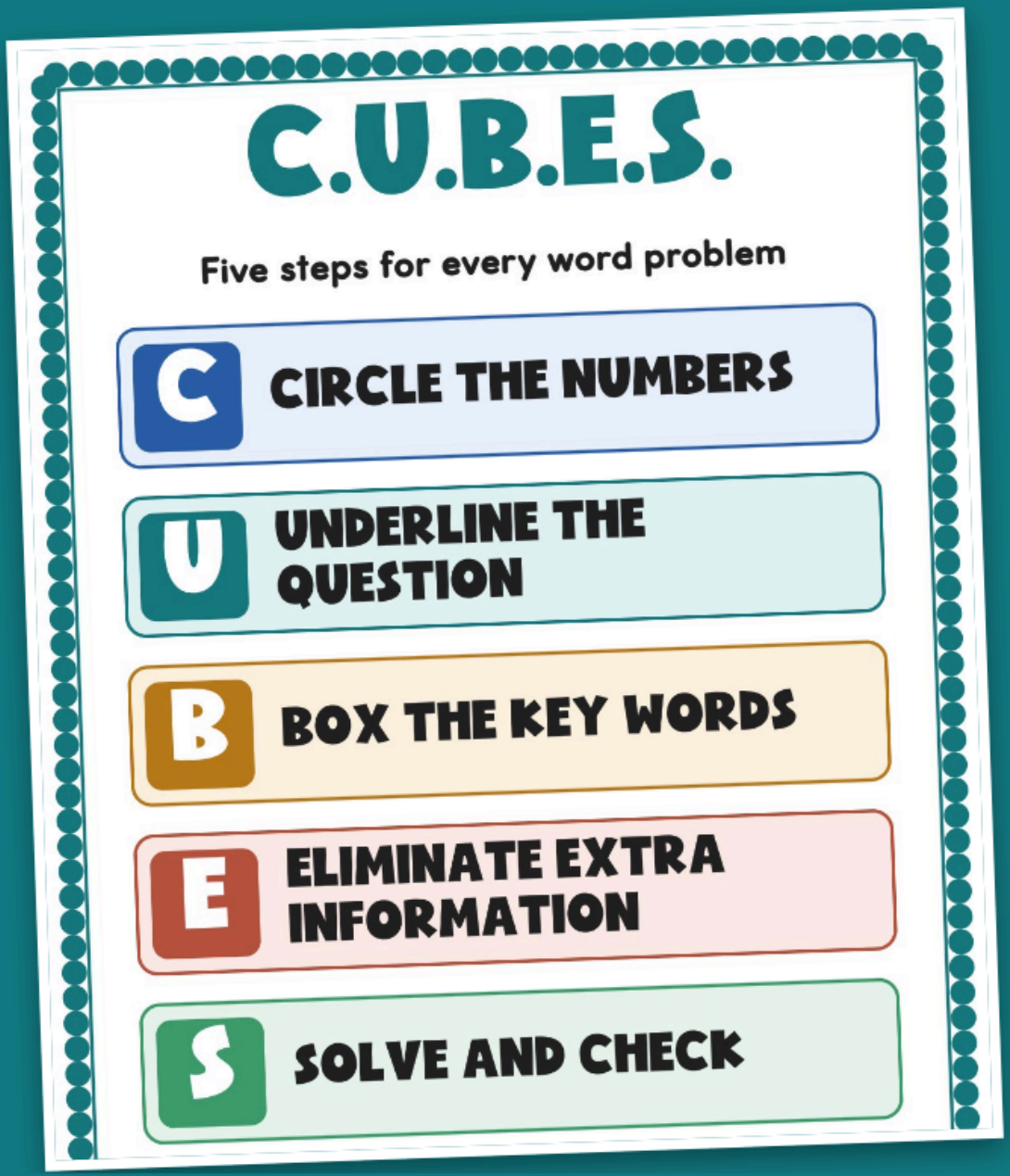
CUBES
MATH STRATEGY



6 POSTERS

12 PROBLEMS

3-5 GRADES

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This is a fillable PDF

- Open it in a PDF reader (Adobe Acrobat Reader, Preview, or your browser), click into a line or a box, type, and Save As.
- The name lines, the work boxes, the answer lines, the story log, the class roll-up and every notes area are type-in fields. You can also print any page and write by hand.
- It works offline. No account, no subscription, no internet connection needed after you download it.

Print at 100 percent

Turn off fit to page and shrink to fit so the cut pieces keep their size. Every page is readable in black and white, and the cut pages come in a color set and an ink-saver set. Posters look best on cardstock; strips and cards children cut are fine on copy paper.

Need help?

If a field will not behave or a page will not print the way you expect, use Ask a Question on the product page before leaving a review. Every question is read, and a fix to the file ships as a free update.

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PREVIEW

How to Use It: Five Short Routines

Each one takes a few minutes. Pick the ones that fit your day.

1. One step a day

- Show one poster. Read the step together. Look at the little problem on the poster.
- Use the worked page (page 11) to show all five steps on one problem.

2. Desk strip

- Each child cuts a strip (a straight cut between strips) and tapes it to the desk.
- Before any word problem, point to each letter and say the step.

3. Key word sort

- Cut the 12 cards. Read each word. Glue it under add, subtract or multiply on the mat (page 16).
- Remind children that a clue word is a clue, not a rule. Always read the whole problem.

4. Practice sets

- Circle set (pages 17, 18): one step, add or subtract. Square set (pages 19, 20): one step, multiply or bigger numbers. Triangle set (pages 21, 22): two steps.
- Each problem has five boxes. Children tick a box after each step.

5. Log it, then write one

- After any problem, add a row to the CUBES log (page 23).
- Ready for more? Children write their own problem with one extra fact (page 24) and a partner solves it.

Notes on your day

PREVIEW

Preview Image Not Found



UNDERLINE THE QUESTION

Find the question. Draw a line under it.

Mia has 24 stickers. She gets 18 more stickers. Her cat is orange. How many stickers does Mia have in all?

The question tells you what to find out.

C U B E S

PREVIEW

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E

ELIMINATE EXTRA INFORMATION

Cross out any fact you do not need.

Mia has (24) stickers. She gets (18) [more] stickers. ~~Her cat is orange.~~ How many stickers does Mia have [in all]?

Not every fact helps. It is okay to cross out a fact.

C U B **E** S

C.U.B.E.S. - five steps for every word problem

PREVIEW

C.U.B.E.S.

Five steps for every word problem

C CIRCLE THE NUMBERS

U UNDERLINE THE QUESTION

B BOX THE KEY WORDS

E ELIMINATE EXTRA INFORMATION

S SOLVE AND CHECK

Do the steps in order. Check your answer last.

PREVIEW

Preview Image Not Sized

Cut the strips. Tape one to your desk.

C Circle numbers	C Circle numbers	C Circle numbers	C Circle numbers	C Circle numbers	C Circle numbers
U Underline question	U Underline question	U Underline question	U Underline question	U Underline question	U Underline question
B Box key words	B Box key words	B Box key words	B Box key words	B Box key words	B Box key words
E Eliminate extras	E Eliminate extras	E Eliminate extras	E Eliminate extras	E Eliminate extras	E Eliminate extras
S Solve and check	S Solve and check	S Solve and check	S Solve and check	S Solve and check	S Solve and check

PREVIEW

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Cut the key word cards. Read each one.

Each word is a clue for one of these. A clue is not a rule. Read the whole problem.

+ ADD	— SUBTRACT	× MULTIPLY

IN ALL	LEFT	EACH
FEWER	EVERY	ALTOGETHER
GROUPS OF	TOTAL	DIFFERENCE
COMBINED	TAKE AWAY	TIMES

PREVIEW

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My name _____

Sort the key words. Glue each one under its sign.

+ ADD	— SUBTRACT	× MULTIPLY

PREVIEW

My name _____

Read. Use the five steps. Solve.

3



Leo read 25 pages on Monday. He read 38 pages on Tuesday. His dog is brown. How many pages did Leo read in all?

C ☐ U ☐ B ☐ E ☐ S ☐

I will ○ add ○ subtract

Number sentence _____ Answer _____

4



There are 62 apples in a basket. A farmer picks 14 of the apples. The basket is red. How many apples are left?

C ☐ U ☐ B ☐ E ☐ S ☐

I will ○ add ○ subtract

Number sentence _____ Answer _____

PREVIEW

Preview Math Set Two

My name _____

Read. Use the five steps. Solve.

7

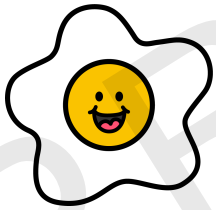


A school library has 245 books. It gets 138 new books. How many books does the library have in all?

C ☐ U ☐ B ☐ E ☐ S ☐

Number sentence _____ Answer _____

8



A farm has 512 eggs. A store has 267 eggs. How many fewer eggs does the store have than the farm?

C ☐ U ☐ B ☐ E ☐ S ☐

Number sentence _____ Answer _____

PREVIEW

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My name _____

Read. Use the five steps. Solve.

11 

Tess bakes 3 trays of muffins. Each tray holds 9 muffins. Her family eats 8 muffins. The oven is hot. How many muffins are left?

C ☐ U ☐ B ☐ E ☐ S ☐

Number sentence _____ Answer _____

12 

A zoo has 5 pens. Each pen has 8 birds. Then 14 more birds come to the zoo. The birds are all small. How many birds are at the zoo in all?

C ☐ U ☐ B ☐ E ☐ S ☐

Number sentence _____ Answer _____

PREVIEW

Preview Image Not Shown

My name _____

Write a word problem. Add one fact that does not help.

My problem

The fact that does not help

My partner solves it here. Draw a picture if it helps.

The answer is _____

PREVIEW

CUBES at Home

For families: at school we solve word problems in five steps. Try them together on this problem. Your child can write or draw, or you can write what they say.

Child's name _____ Date _____ Helper _____

The five steps

C **Circle the numbers**

U **Underline the question**

B **Box the key words**

E **Eliminate extra information**

S **Solve and check**



Our problem

There are 12 forks in the drawer. There are 5 more forks on the table. The table is round. How many forks are there in all?

Our work

The number sentence

_____

The answer

_____

PREVIEW

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Class Roll-Up: Which Steps Do We Need?

After a practice set, look at each child's page. Write how many of the 4 problems show each step done. The most possible in each column is 4. Write the sum on the right (20 in all).

Class _____ Teacher _____ Set (circle, square, triangle) _____

Child	Circle	Underline	Box	Eliminate	Solve	Sum

PREVIEW

Most of us have it

_____

_____

Needs more of our time

_____

_____

Phrase Bank

Fill each blank with what you really saw.

Think aloud (you model it)

- "I am going to circle every number first. I see ____ numbers."
- "This is the question. I will underline it so I do not forget it."
- "This word is a clue. I will put a box around it."
- "This fact does not help me, so I will cross it out."

Questions that give a hint

- "What is the question asking you to find?"
- "Which numbers does the story use?"
- "Which word in the problem is a clue?"
- "Does every fact help you answer the question?"

Questions for the check

- "Read the question again. Does your answer fit?"
- "How could you check it a different way?"
- "Is your answer bigger or smaller than the numbers you started with? Why?"
- "Say your answer in a whole sentence."

Sentence starters for children

- The question asks me to find ____.
- The clue word is ____, so I will ____.
- I crossed out ____ because ____.
- My answer is ____ ____ because ____.

For the note home

- This week we are using five steps called CUBES to solve word problems.
- Your child can show you the steps on the take-home page.
- At home you can ask: What is the question? Which numbers do we need?
- Thank you for ____ (what the family did to help).

PREVIEW