



# FAMILY MATH NEWSLETTER

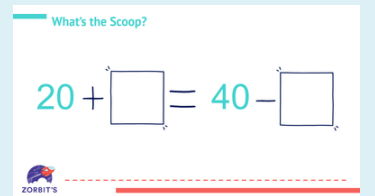
## PRIMARY EDITION

Issue 4: January 2025



Balance the equation: what makes this true?  
Create a story problem that uses the same numbers

Source: Clearmath: What's the Scoop Bundle <https://educator.clearmath.com/#/activities/92566/resources>



### Game: Secret Number



**Player 1:** Thinks of a secret number to type in the calculator, then asks Player 2 for a number to add.

**Player 2:** Tell Player 1 your chosen number.

**Player 1:** Add this number to the secret number and hand the calculator to Player 2.

**Player 2:** Guess the secret number based on the total shown.

*Example: Player 1 types 8 into the calculator.*

*Player 2 says they want to add 7.*

*Player 1 adds 7 to 8 and gives the calculator to Player 2.*

*Player 2 sees the total of 15 and guesses the secret number.*

### Math Talk: Target Number



**My Target is 28.**

How many different ways can you decompose and represent this number?

### Good Read and Watch - Numberless Word Problems

**Good Read:** The following article, [Where did the numbers go?](#) by Kristen Acosta presents some of the challenges of problem-solving and explores the use of Numberless Word Problems to teach good problem-solving strategies.

**Good Watch:** The following PBS video, [PBS.org - Numberless Word Problems](#), presents different numberless word problem scenarios to try with your child.

Now that you know about Numberless Word Problems, try some out with your child(ren) including the one below!



### Problem Solving

Begin with the first reading. Using guiding questions ([linked here](#)), have your child explore the mathematical scenario. Once your child has had time to work through the first reading, move onto the second reading and repeat.

1st Reading: Marwan had some colorful marbles. He gave some of them to his friend Jose. Now he has some marbles left.

2nd Reading: Marwan had some colorful marbles. He gave 5 of them to his friend Jose. Now he has some marbles left.

3rd Reading: Marwan had some colorful marbles. He gave 5 of them to his friend Jose. Now he has 32 marbles left.

4th Reading: Marwan had some colorful marbles. He gave 5 of them to his friend Jose. Now he has 32 marbles left. How many marbles did Marwan have before he gave some away?

**Source:** [Numberless Word Problems - Problem Bank](#)