



Math Strategies

A Problem-Solver's Journal

Student Book

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Creating an Organized List

Organizing information is a very important skill. You can use this skill to help solve problems.

When a problem has a large amount of information, it is sometimes best to organize it into a list. Then you can follow an order or sequence to find the solution.

Making an organized list is especially helpful when you need to decide how many ways a group of items can be combined.

When creating a list, one item usually stays the same while the others change. You will see how this works in the examples that follow.

Before you begin using this strategy, you will learn about how and when to create a list to solve problems. Use the problems on the following pages to practice the strategy.

Today's Problem**26****Strategy: Creating an Organized List****Problem**

Dana has to wear a uniform to school each day. For her uniform she can select from the following choices: bottoms—skirt, shorts, pants, or jumper; tops—polo, button-front, or T-shirt; socks—blue or white. Dana needs to wear a different combination of items each day. Does she have enough of each type of clothing to wear a different outfit for each day of the month (20 school days)?

Using the Strategy**My Solution**