



## PROBLEM-SOLVING

A set of Math problem-solving tasks matching the curriculum program- Endangered species of the UAE. These resources can be laminated and cut into individual reusable task cards to avoid printing and wastage of paper. Educators should spend a few minutes on a whole-class discussion about the human value of **compassion**, the need to be compassionate towards the endangered species of the UAE and what can be done to help spread the awareness to the community about the endangered species. Let pupils reflect on this and talk about it to each other and the whole class.

### How do you get your pupils to solve problems efficiently?

By year 2 the four basic calculations of  $+$ ,  $-$ ,  $\times$ ,  $\div$  should be thoroughly learned and recalled by taught techniques. Techniques include verbal recall, portioning of problems into small sections and using actions to help retain vocabulary. Use the body to make  $=$ ,  $-$ ,  $\times$ ,  $\div$  symbol to help recall vocabulary. This could be done even during spare time in between classes. I have included a power-point on the seven steps to problem-solving. This is a very useful resource for educators.

Focus on the **vocabulary** used in the word problems. Most often pupils are unable to solve word problems because they do not understand the vocabulary in the word problems. Making them underline the key vocabulary in a word problem will help them to pick out key information in the problem.

You could also ask pupils to draw the problem. Make story maps of the methods children use to complete the four basic calculations. Then pupils can talk their way through the word problems. This is an interesting strategy to use to solve word problems.

The final strategy... do lots and lots of word problems for every math topic with your pupils.

Note: The names of schools mentioned in the word problems are fictionary.