

Activity 9 Assessment

Solving Equations with Multiple Terms

Solving Equations with Multiple Terms

Interprets the meaning of single variable equations that involve more than one operation

“The equation $2x + 3 = 21$ means that when you double a number and add 3 to the result, you get 21.”

Uses relational rods to model and solve multi-step equations involving whole numbers

“To model $2x + 3 = 21$, I started with the light green rod, which has a value of 3. I need to find 2 rods the same colour to place beside it to get to 21. The blue rod works. This means x is 9.”

Uses inverse relationships or other solution methods to solve multi-step equations involving whole numbers and/or decimals

“For $2x + 3 = 21$, I know 21 is 3 more than $2x$. So, if I take away 3 from 21, I’ll find out what $2x$ is. Then I can divide by 2 to find x . I can record this with a flow chart.

$x \rightarrow \times 2 \rightarrow + 3 \rightarrow 21$
 $9 \leftarrow \div 2 \leftarrow - 3 \leftarrow 21.$ ”

Checks answers and identifies errors in solutions if the answer is incorrect

“A student solves the equation $\frac{c}{3} - 4 = 8$ like this: *This equation means that $\frac{c}{3}$ is 4 more than 8.*

So, $\frac{c}{3} = 8 + 4$; $\frac{c}{3} = 12$

I know that $\frac{12}{3}$ is 4, so $c = 4$.

But if I substitute 4 for c in the left side of the equation, I get $\frac{4}{3} - 4$, which is not equal to 8.

Instead of dividing 12 by 3, the student should have multiplied to find a number that has a result of 12 when divided by 3. The correct answer is $c = 36$.”

Observations/Documentation