

Mystery Math

Grade 4

4 skill lessons · 3 math-through-reading

Skill lessons

4 lessons on the mathematics the book carries. Printable workbook pages and teacher keys are not available for this book yet.

1. Get the Mystery Number Alone

Application · Finding an unknown by undoing the operation on both sides

2. Both Sides of the Equal Sign

Concept · Reading an equation as two sides that must balance

3. Weigh the Mystery Number

Representation · Building a balance scale and using it to find a missing weight

4. Turn the Story into a Sentence

Reasoning · Writing a word problem as an equation with a letter for the unknown

Math through the reading

The mathematics is reached through a sentence the book prints: change one word in the reading and the numbers change with it. These carry their own standards, matched against these lessons rather than inherited from the skill ones.

5. The Words That Move the Weight

Integrated · Students test four of the book's operation words by acting each one out on a balance mat and saying what a swapped word would make their hands do instead.

6. The Number the Book Never Prints

Integrated · Students find the one weight that levels the hanger, then write the sentence from the book that proves six is the only answer it could have been.

7. Did He Tell Them or Not?

Integrated · Students take a side on whether the caretaker gave away the number of skeletons, and must produce twenty and the sentences behind it whichever side they take.

Reading and language lessons

5 lessons on the reading and language the book carries - what a word means in its sentence, how a character is shown, how a text is built. No mathematics: these are matched against the English language arts curricula, which are a different and smaller set than the mathematics ones.

8. Four names for one thing

Vocabulary · Tracking the several names a text gives to one idea and saying why it changes them

9. Four headings, one shape

Comprehension · Using repeated section headings to see how a whole book is organised

10. Why is there a haunted house in this book?

Reasoning · Explaining what a story wrapped around an informational text does for a reader

11. Egor, Igor, Eager

Language · Deciding whether differently spelled names refer to one person or to several

12. The seesaw that never leaves

Comprehension · Following one comparison a writer returns to and saying what it explains each time