

Inquiry Lab

Solve One-Step Addition and Subtraction Equations



HOW can bar diagrams or algebra tiles help you solve an equation?



Content Standards
7.EE.4, 7.EE.4a
Mathematical Practices
1, 2, 3, 5

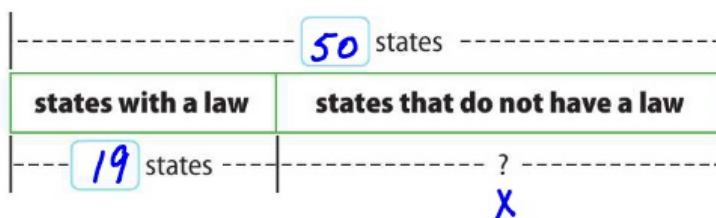


In a recent year, 19 of the 50 states had a law banning the use of handheld cell phones while driving a school bus. Determine how many states did not have this law.

Hands-On Activity 1

You can represent this situation with an equation.

Step 1 The bar diagram represents the total number of states and the number of states that have passed a cell phone law. Fill in the missing information.



Step 2 Write an equation from the bar diagram. Let x represent the states that do not have a cell phone law for school bus drivers.

$$19 + x = 50$$

Step 3 Use the *work backward* strategy to solve the equation. Since

$$19 + x = 50, x = 50 - 19. \text{ So, } x = 31.$$

Check $19 + 31 = 50 \checkmark$

So, 31 states did *not* have a law banning the use of cell phones by bus drivers.





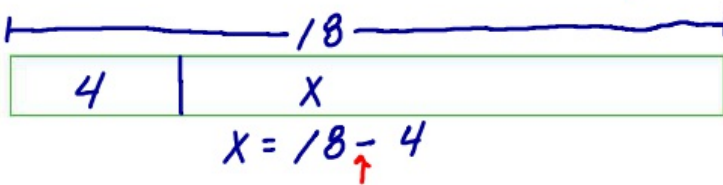
Investigate

Work with a partner to solve each problem.

1. Draw a bar diagram and write an addition equation to represent the following situation. Then solve the equation.

The $+$ sum of a number x and four is equal to 18.

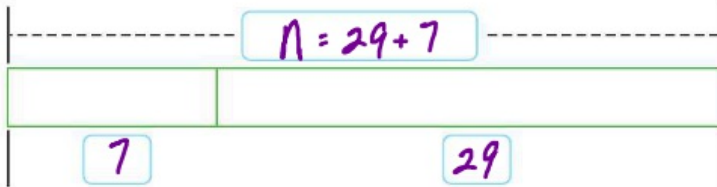
$$x + 4 = 18$$



Equation: $x = 18 - 4$

Solution: $x = 14$

2. **CCSS Use Math Tools** Jack collects postage stamps. He sold 7 of his stamps and had 29 stamps left. Complete the bar diagram below. Then write and solve a subtraction equation to find the number of stamps Jack had at the beginning.



Equation: $29 + 7 = n$

Solution: $n = 36$

So, Jack had 36 stamps at the beginning.

2 TIME 3 EQUALS 6
 $2(3) = 6$
 $2 \cdot 3 = 6$

CHECK

$$\begin{array}{r} 36 \\ - 7 \\ \hline 29 \text{ LEFT} \end{array}$$
 j



Analyze and Reflect

3. Suppose Jack sold 15 stamps and had 21 stamps left. How would the bar diagram change?

4. **CCSS Reason Abstractly** Suppose Jack had 40 stamps in the beginning and sold 7 of them. How would the bar diagram change? What equation could you write to represent the situation?
