

3rd Grade Sample Number Story:

Mr. Weiss and Mr. Fields went to Hawaii last summer. They found 273 seashells the first day and 123 seashells on the second day. Unfortunately, the next day they lost 155 of the seashells. How many seashells are left?

Solve first as an adult

Date:	Story Problem Type & Magnitude: TF-RU with an embedded AT-RU (take from, result unknown with an embedded add to, result unknown”	Agenda:
Story Problem: Mr. Weiss and Mr. Fields went to Hawaii last summer. They found 273 seashells the first day and 123 seashells on the second day. Unfortunately, the next day they lost 155 of the seashells. How many seashells are left?		Potential Misunderstandings: <ul style="list-style-type: none">● Students might just add all three numbers or only solve the first step of the problem (and forget to subtract).● This problem could be confusing because it requires students to add and then subtract.
Big Idea/Key Points: <ul style="list-style-type: none">● Understand that some problems have multiple parts that need to be solved in order to find the answer.● Sometimes there are multiple pieces of information in a problem and we need to consider more than one action or step to solve a problem. We can look for the “big problem” to help us figure out what pieces of information we need.		

Three Grade Level Representations from Least to Most Sophisticated

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Next Steps:

Which of the above representations would you want students to showcase?

What kinds of discussion questions might you ask to help other students better understand the problem?