

Solving Word Problems

This is an example of solving comparing word problems, using model drawing.

Problem: Mr. Morse planted 64 plants in the garden last spring. This spring he plans on planting another 87 plants. How many more plants will Mr. Morse plant this spring than last spring?

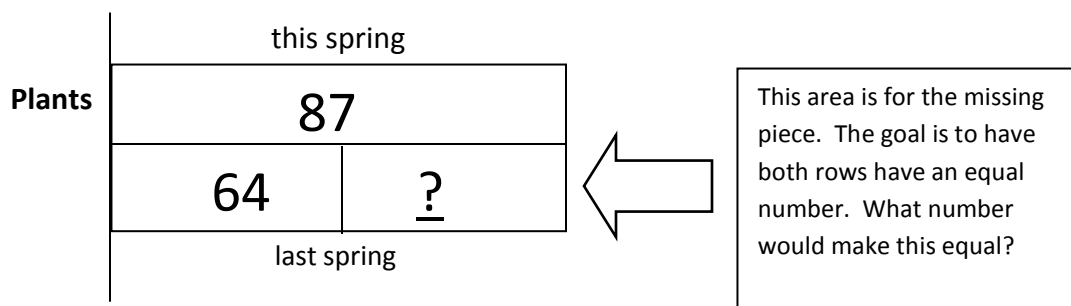
1. Read the entire problem.
2. Underline the question in the problem.

Mr. Morse planted 64 plants in the garden last spring. This spring he plans on planting another 87 plants. How many more plants will Mr. Morse plant this spring than last spring?

3. Write a statement that would answer the question.

Mr. Morse will plant _____ more plants in the garden this spring than last spring.

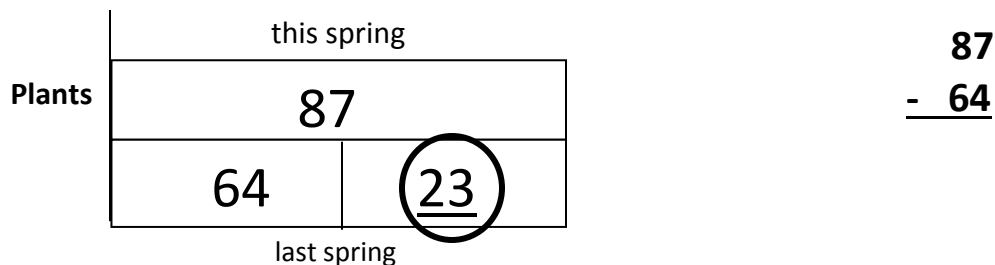
4. Draw a model that will be used to show what is happening in the problem and label it.



5. Now do the math, solve the problem using the method that is best for you.

$$\begin{array}{r} 87 \\ - 64 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

6. Put the answer back into your model and circle it. Does your answer make sense? Check it.



7. If your model makes sense, put the answer back into your statement and reread it. It should also make sense.

Mr. Morse will plant 23 more plants in the garden this spring than last spring.