

A top-down view of a wooden table with several children's hands reaching for colorful foam blocks. A large pile of yellow, blue, green, and red blocks is in the upper center. A child's hand is holding a red block on the right. Another child's hands are near a small pile of blue and yellow blocks at the bottom left. Two green blocks are on the right side. The text 'Cooperative Learning through Problem Solving' is overlaid on the left, with 'Freebie Sample' below it.

Cooperative Learning *through* Problem Solving

Freebie Sample

Cooperative Learning *through* Problem Solving

Cooperative Learning through Problem Solving contains sets of cards that encourage students to work together to solve the given problem. All of the problems involve an amount of colored squares and basic clues to solve the number of each square. The situations are basic, but without everyone's participation, the problem can't be solved.

Prior to putting students into groups to do the activity, I suggest doing a couple of whole group lessons on cooperation. Create an anchor chart and list student responses to the questions: What does it mean to work together? How do you show your group that your working with them? What does your body look like? What kind of words can we say? How do we share the squares?

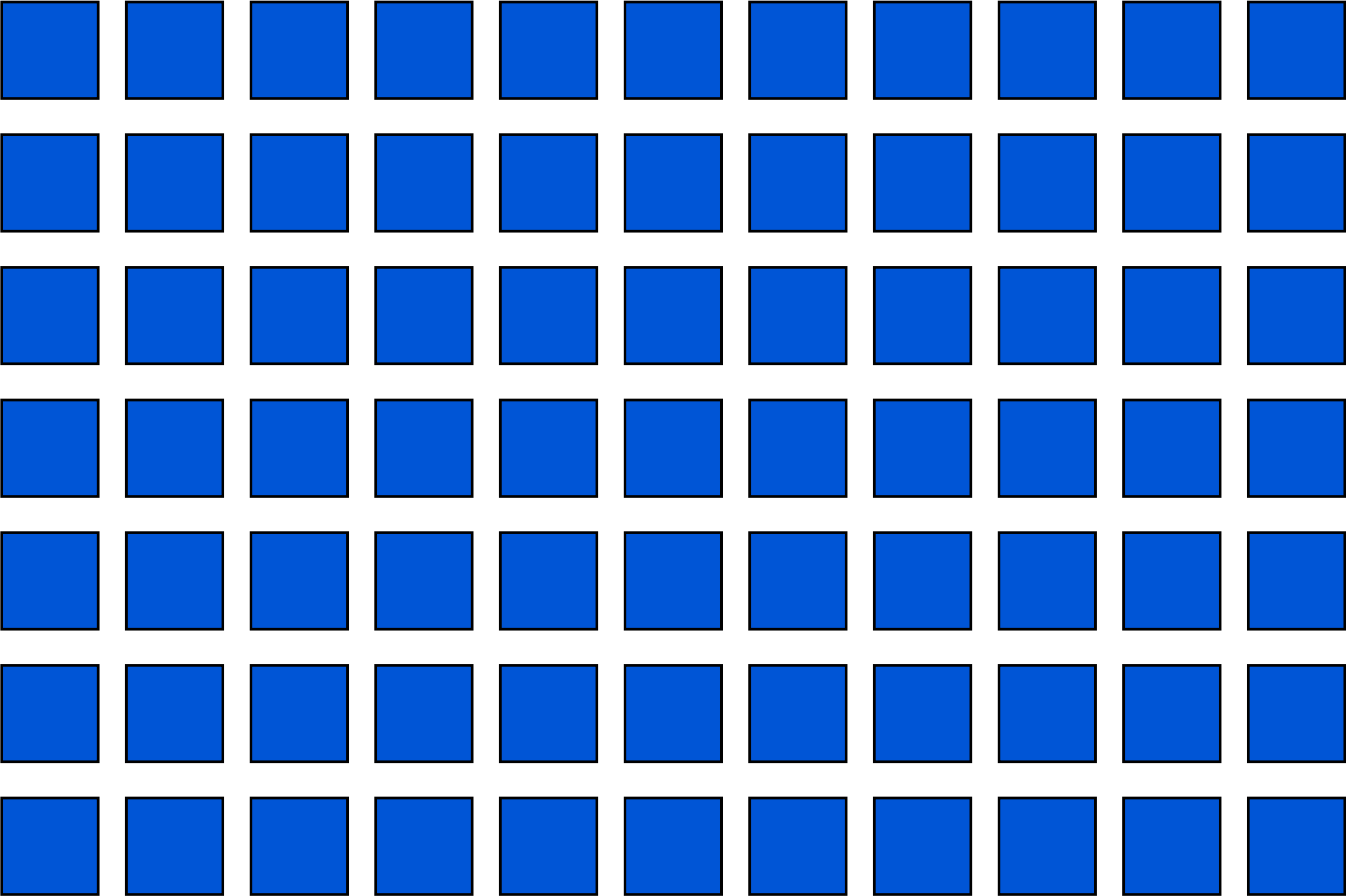
After the activity, come back together as a whole group and have a discussion about what went well and what didn't. Reflect on the anchor chart created prior to the lesson and revisit whether groups worked well together. Have students reflect on themselves as a participate and on their group as a whole.

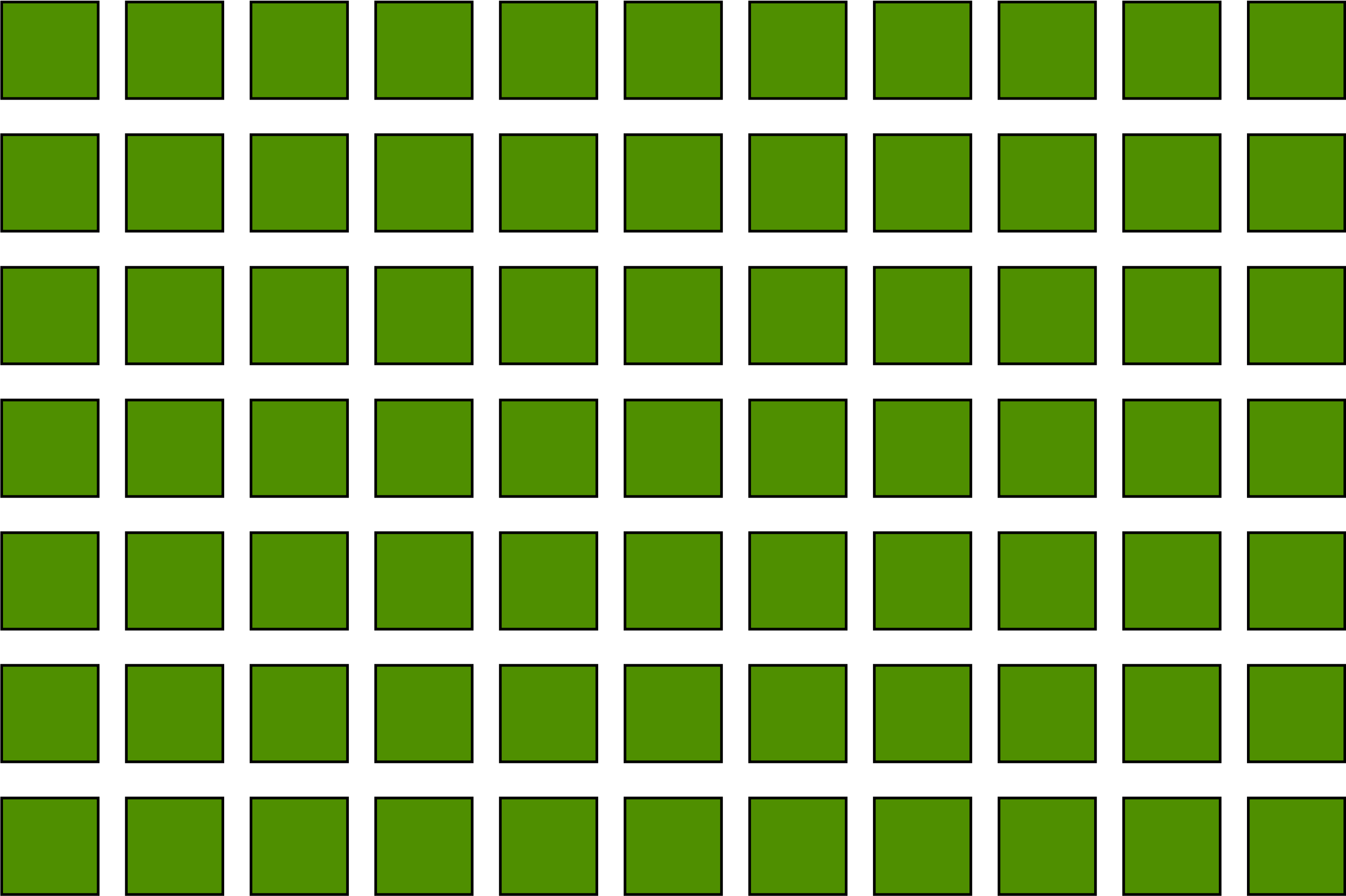
Each set of cards poses a problem that is a group of colored squares. Use connecting cubes or colored squares, if available or print the provided colored squares. I have duplicated the problem cards so that both squares and blocks are an option. You will need blue, green, and yellow squares or cubes.

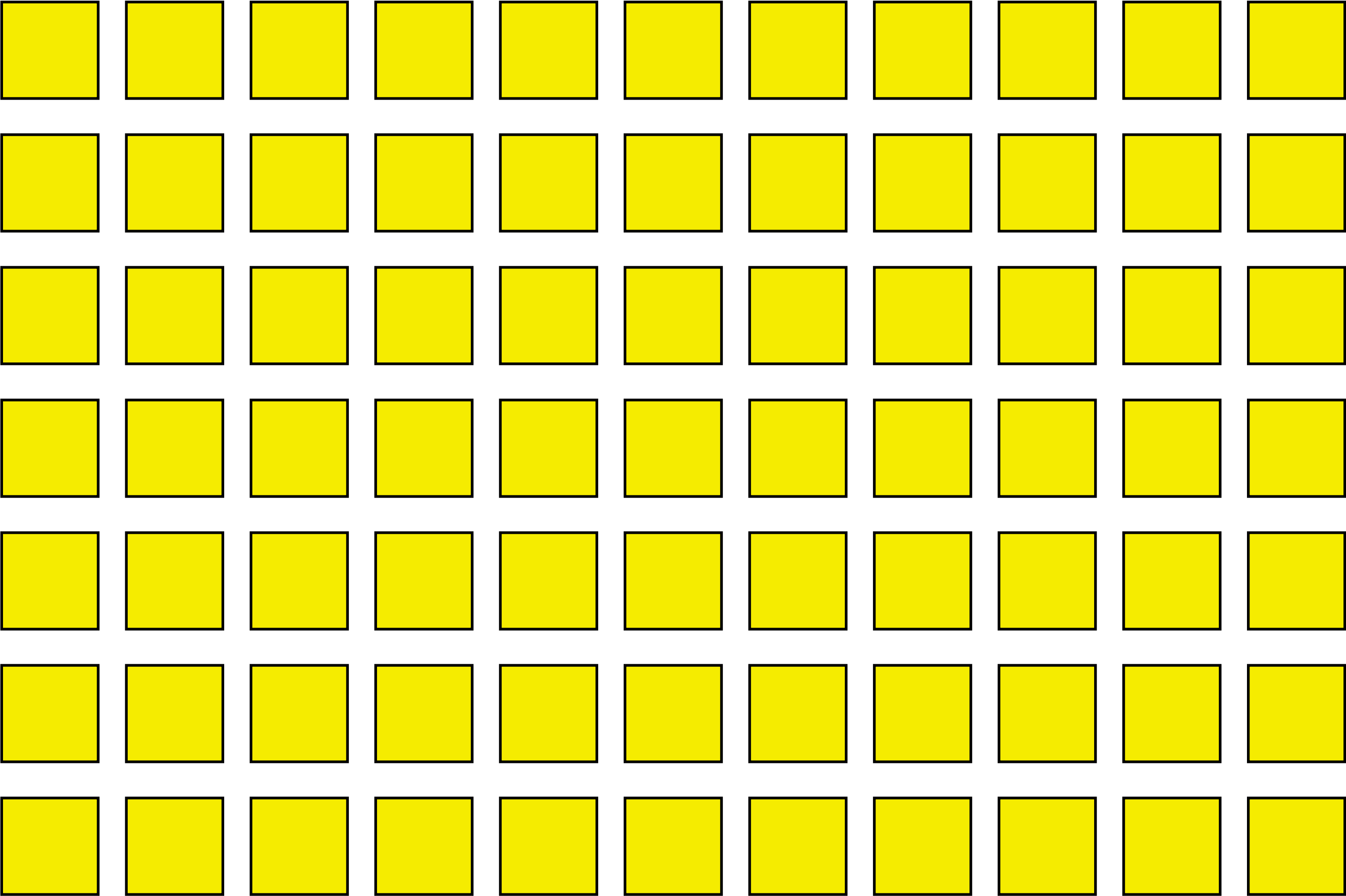
Give one card to each student in the group and provide them with a set of colored squares or cubes. Do not provide them with a set amount. Groups of three or four are ideal. Students cannot show each other their cards, but can only read the card to their group. Each student is responsible for verifying that the requirements of his card is met before the group can say, "We're done."

Students will need to understand the words and phrases:
equal to, fewer than, less than, more than, double, even, odd

More advanced problems will require language and concepts such as:
half as many, twice as many, half of







Cooperative Learning *through* Problem Solving

Problems Using Squares



Cooperative Learning *through* Problem Solving



Problems for Groups of Three

Problem One

**There are five
squares.**

Problem One

**Two squares are
blue.**

Problem One

**There are more
green squares
than yellow
squares.**

Problem Two

**There are five
squares**

Problem Two

**The number of
yellow squares is less
than the number of
blue squares.**

Problem Two

**There is one green
square.**

Problem Three

**There are
five squares.**

Problem Three

**Three squares are
yellow.**

Problem Three

**The number of
blue and green
squares is the
same.**

Cooperative Learning *through* Problem Solving

Problems for Groups of Four



Problem Nineteen

There are eight squares.

Problem Nineteen

There are more green squares than any other color.

Problem Nineteen

The number of blue squares is odd.

Problem Nineteen

There are fewer yellow squares than blue squares.

Problem Twenty

There are eight squares.

Problem Twenty

There is an odd number of blue squares.

Problem Twenty

There is one yellow square.

Problem Twenty

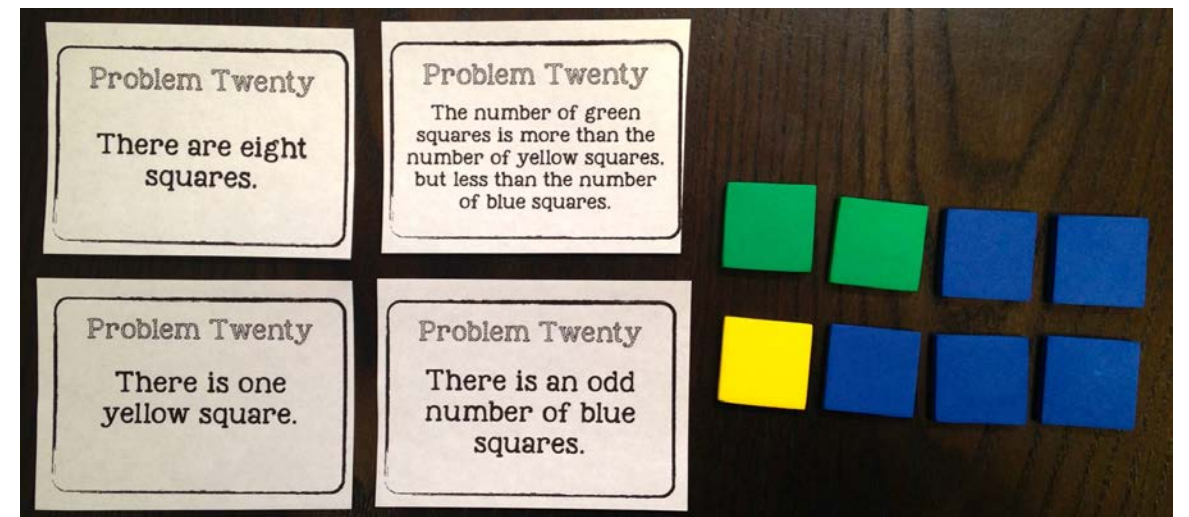
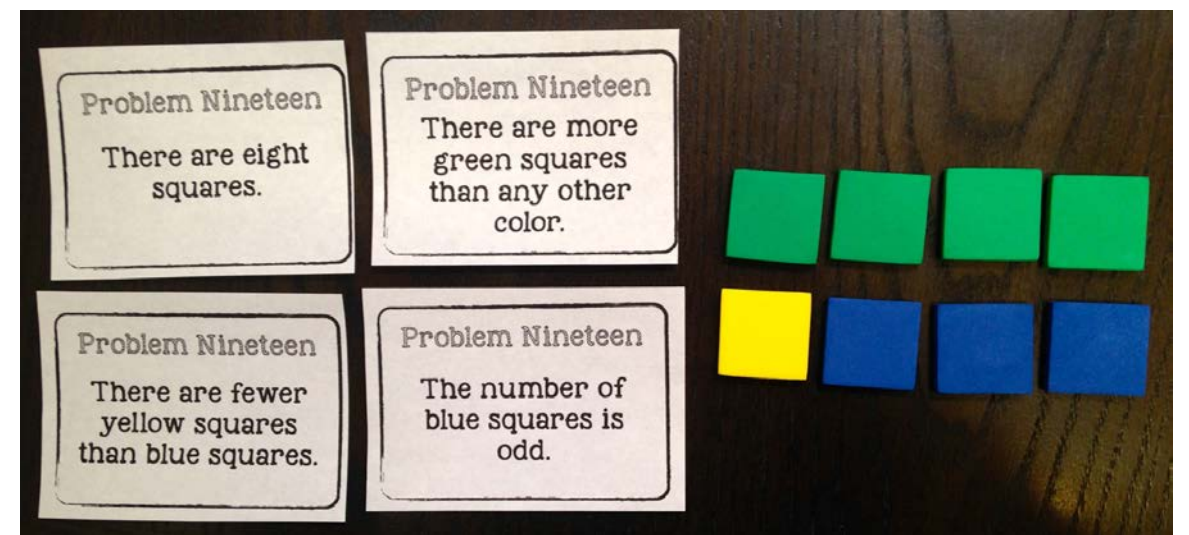
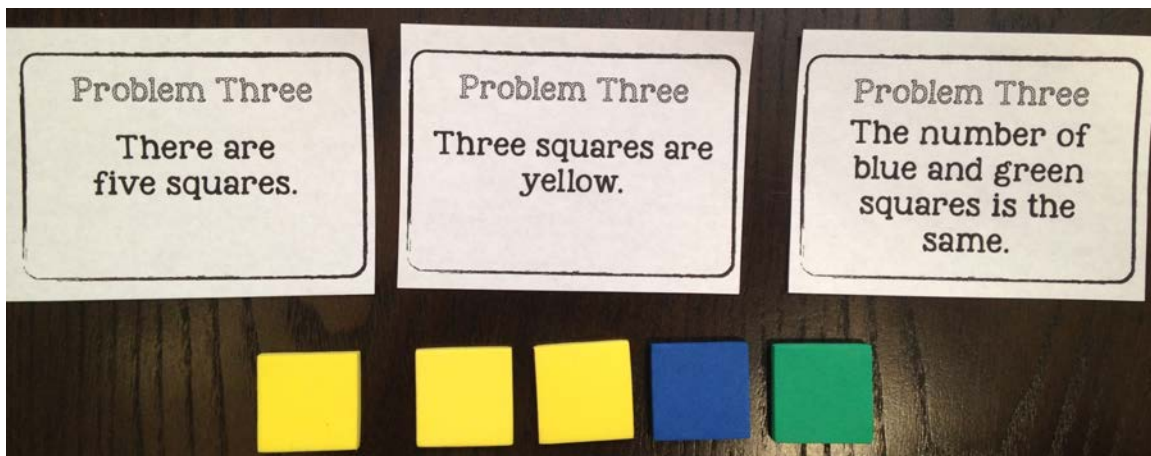
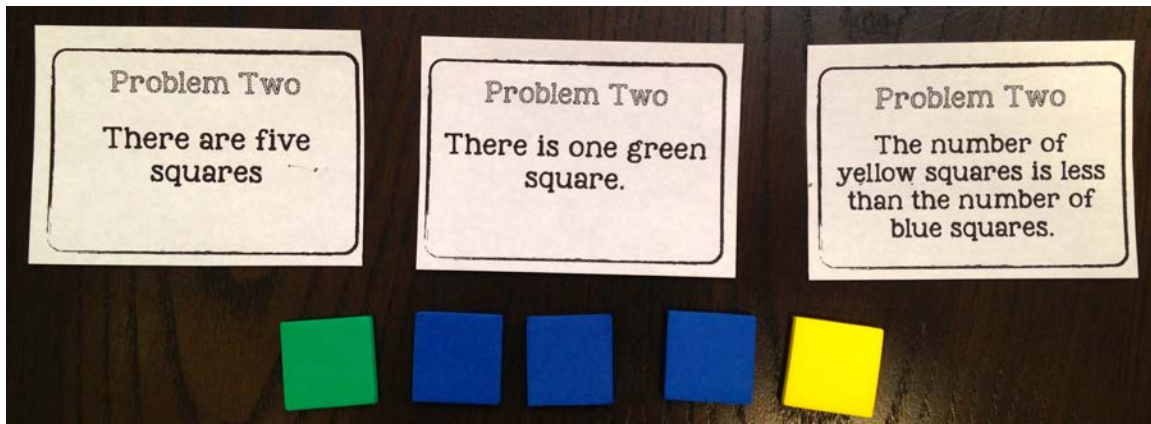
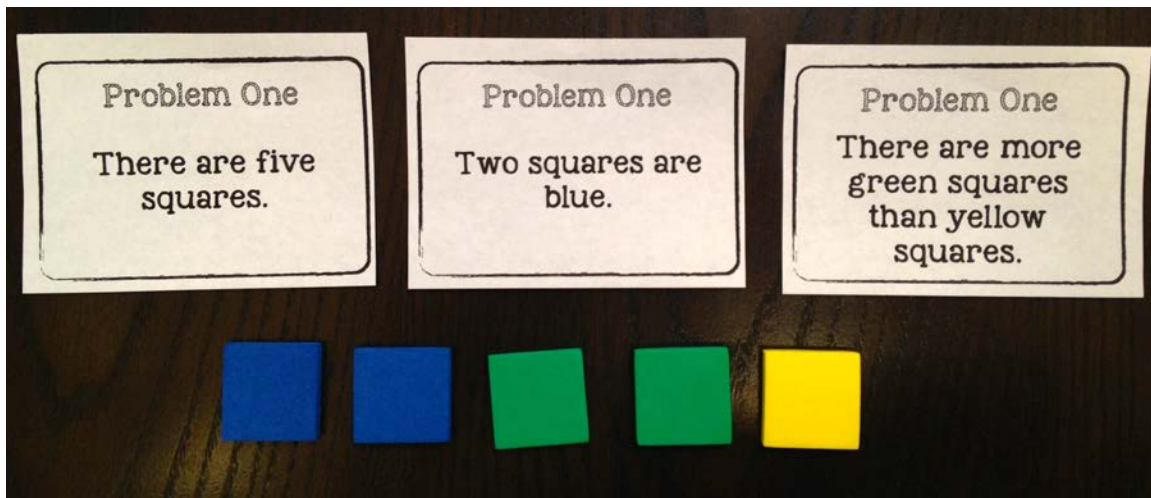
The number of green squares is more than the number of yellow squares, but less than the number of blue squares.

Cooperative Learning *through* Problem Solving

Visual Answer Key

Some problems may have more than one solution.
The answer key shows the problem cards for squares.
The problem cards for blocks are the same.



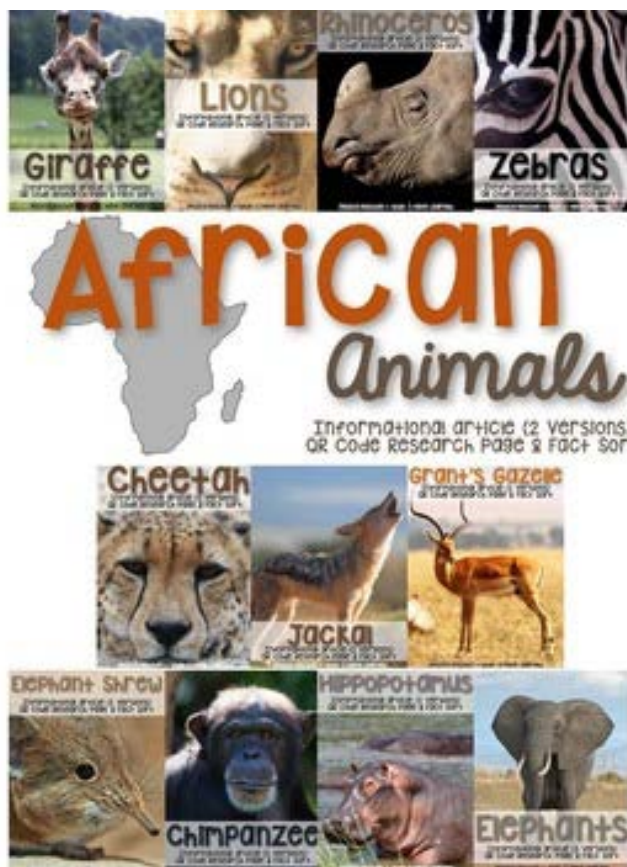
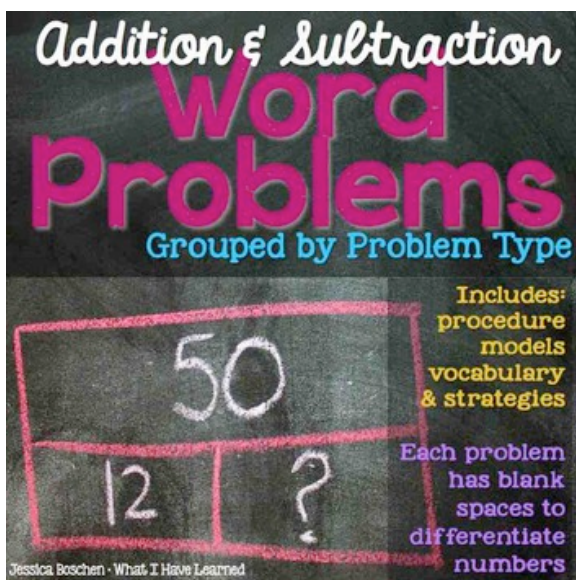
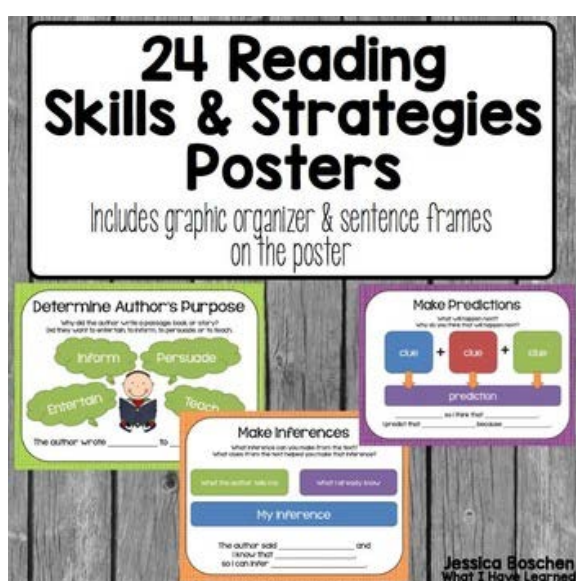


WHAT I have LEARNED



Do you like what you see?

Check out my other products:



WANT MORE?

Sign up to receive updates, blog posts, resources, and exclusive freebies. Plus, receive a full product for FREE just for signing up!

First Name

E-Mail Address

SIGN ME UP!

Holiday

Math

Social Studies

Science

English Language Arts

Don't forget to earn credits by providing feedback.

If you have any questions, please email jessica@whatihavelearnedteaching.com.
I'm happy to help.

All rights reserved. For use in one classroom only.. This document cannot be redistributed without permission.

Thank you to ...

Lovin' Lit KPM Doodles
Bubbly Borders & More
David's Simple Teaching

