

GUESS AND CHECK



This strategy encourages students to make a **reasonable** guess, check the guess, and revise the guess if necessary. By repeating this process, a student can arrive at a correct answer that has been checked. Using this strategy does not always yield a correct solution immediately, but it provides information that can be used to better understand the problem and may suggest the use of another strategy.

Example 1: I wrote 3 different numbers on 3 cards. The sum of the numbers is 7. What did I put on the cards?

Try $1+2+3 = 6$ (it's too low)

Try $1+2+4 = 7$ (it's correct)

I put 1, 2, and 4.

Example 2: Matt bought 2 items. He paid with his \$5 bill and get \$2.25 change. What two items did he buy?

Items	
Hotdog	\$1.50
Cheese burger	\$2.00
Popcorn	\$0.75
Soda	\$0.50

Matt spent \$2.75 ---- \$5 subtracts \$2.25.

Try a hotdog and a burger \rightarrow \$3.50 (too high).

Try a hotdog and popcorn \rightarrow \$2.25 (it's too low).

Try a burger and popcorn, $\$2 + \$0.75 = \$2.75$ (it's correct).

Example 3:

Tom played darts and the target had 3 sections: 30 points, 14 points, and 8 points. He took 5 tries, but missed the target twice. His score was 46. What sections did he hit?

Try $30+14+8 = 52$ (it's too high).

Try $30+8+8 = 46$ (it's correct). He hit 30, 8 and 8.