# Math Story Problems
# Valentine's Day Templates

The following math story problems are to be used as templates for you to create Valentine's story problems individualized to your children. They are grouped together based upon the Cognitive Guided Instruction Model's Types of Word Problems.

## Choose a Problem Type

First, pick the type of problem your child needs to work on. There are various types of problems for addition and subtraction. And a few for multiplication and division. Each problem is worded slightly differently. Practice a variety of problems with your children so they can conceptualize the problems no matter how it is worded.

## Create the Problem

Once you have picked the type, replace each _someone_ with a person's name that is meaningful to your child. Replace each italicized, underlined _some_ with numbers that would be appropriate for your child to be working with.

For example, if your child is working on making 10, create problems that practice that skill. If they are doing double digit addition, include double digit numbers in your problems. You can make each problem as easy or as hard as you would like.

There are a few other italicized words you can customize as well such as color and place.

Examples are given to get you started.

**Note:** For ideas of how to present the problems to your children and guide them through solving them, check out: Teaching Math With Story Problems, Not Word Problems

## Join: Result Unknown

1. There were _some_ pieces of candy on the table. Then, I put _some_ more pieces of candy on the table. How many pieces of candy are on the table now?

(E.g., There were 6 pieces of candy on the table. Then, I put 4 more pieces of candy on the table. How many pieces of candy are on the table now? **10 pieces of candy**)

2. There were _some_ Valentine's cards in the mailbox. Then, someone put _some_ more Valentine's cards in the mailbox. How many Valentine's cards are in the mailbox now?

(E.g., There were 22 Valentine's cards in the mailbox. Then, someone put 13 more Valentine's cards in the mailbox. How many Valentine's cards are in the mailbox now? **35 Valentine's cards**)

## Join: Change Unknown

1. _Someone_ had _some_ candy hearts. She/he bought some more candy hearts. Then, she/he had _some_ candy hearts. How many candy hearts did _someone_ buy?

(E.g., Nicole had 23 candy hearts. She bought some more candy hearts. Then, she had 47 candy hearts. How many candy hearts did Nicole buy? **24 candy hearts**)

2. _Someone_ has _some_ heart stickers. She/he wants to have _some_ heart stickers. How many more heart stickers does _someone_ need?

(E.g., Will has 4 heart stickers. He wants to have 12 heart stickers. How many more stickers does Will need? **8 heart stickers**)

## Join: Start Unknown

1. _Someone_ had some Valentine's cards. She/he bought _some_ more Valentine's cards. Then, she/he had _some_ Valentine's cards. How many Valentine's cards did _someone_ start with?

(E.g., Aiden had some Valentine's cards. He bought 12 more Valentine's cards. Then, he had 24 Valentine's cards. How many Valentine's cards did Aiden start with? **12 Valentine's cards**)

2. Some children were decorating cards. _Some_ more children joined them. Then, there were _some_ children altogether. How many children were there to start with?

(E.g., Some children were decorating cards. 10 more children joined them. Then, there were 23 children altogether. How many children were there to start with? **13 children**)

## Separate: Results Unknown

1. _Someone #1_ has _some_ red roses. He/she gave _some_ red roses to _someone #2_. How many red roses does _someone #1_ have left?

(E.g., Lily has 18 red roses. She gave 9 red roses to her mother. How many red roses does Lily have left? **9 red roses**)

2. _Some_ children were making heart shaped cookies. _Some_ children decided to go play instead. How many children are still making heart shaped cookies?

(E.g., Ten children were making heart shaped cookies. Three children decided to go play instead. How many children are still making heart shaped cookies? **7 children**)

## Separate: Change Unknown

1. _Someone #1_ had _some_ Valentine's Day bookmarks. She/he gave some bookmarks to _someone #2_. Then _Someone #1_ had _some_ bookmarks. How many bookmarks did _someone #1_ give to _someone #2_?

(E.g., Logan had 12 Valentine's Day bookmarks. He gave some bookmarks to his sister. Then Logan had 6 bookmarks. How many bookmarks did Logan give to his sister? **6 bookmarks**)

2. _Someone_ found _some_ pencils covered in hearts. Then, she/he lost some. Then, she/he had _some_ pencils. How many heart covered pencils did he/she lose?

(E.g., Alex found 25 pencils covered in hearts. Then, he lost some. Then, he had 12 pencils. How many heart covered pencils did he lose? **13 pencils**)

## Separate: Start Unknown

1. _Someone_ had some red strawberries. He/she ate _some_ red strawberries. Then, he/she had _some_ strawberries left. How many strawberries did _someone_ have before he/she ate any?

(E.g., Jose had some red strawberries. He ate 9 red strawberries. Then, he had 6 strawberries left. How many strawberries did Jose have before he ate any? **15 strawberries**)

2. The library had some books about Valentine's Day on the shelf. Then, _some_ of them were checked out. Now, there are _some_ books about Valentine's Day still on the shelf. How many books about Valentine's Day were on the shelf to start with?

(E.g., The library had some books about Valentine's Day on the shelf. Then, 6 of them were checked out. Now, there are 7 books about Valentine's Day still on the shelf. How many books about Valentine's Day were on the shelf to start with? **13 books**)

## Part-Part-Whole: Whole Unknown

1. <u>Someone</u> had <u>some</u> <u>color</u> hearts. He/she also had <u>some</u> <u>color #2</u> hearts. How many hearts does she/he have altogether?

(E.g., Harry had 23 purple hearts. He also had 28 pink hearts. How many hearts does he have altogether? **51 hearts**)

2. <u>Some</u> boys went to a Valentine's Day dance. <u>Some</u> girls also went to the Valentine's Day dance. How many children are at the Valentine's Day dance?

(E.g., Twelve boys went to a Valentine's Day dance. Fifteen girls also went to the Valentine's Day dance. How many children are at the Valentine's Day dance? **27 children**)

## Part-Part-Whole: Part Unknown

1. There were <u>some</u> hearts on a door. <u>Some</u> of the hearts had words written on them. How many hearts did not have words written on them?

(E.g., There were 12 hearts on a door. Five of the hearts had words written on them. How many hearts did not have words written on them? **7 hearts** )

2. <u>Someone</u> has <u>some</u> flowers. <u>Some</u> of them are <u>color</u>. How many of the flowers are not <u>color</u>?

(E.g., Julian has 18 flowers. Eight of them are red. How many of the flowers are not red? **10 flowers are not red**.)

# Compare: Difference Unknown

1. _Someone #1_ has _some_ heart erasers. _Someone #2_ has _some_ heart erasers. How many more heart erasers does _Someone #1_ have than _Someone #2_?

(E.g., Christian has 21 heart erasers. His sister has 14 heart erasers. How many more heart erasers does Christian have than his sister? **7 heart erasers.**)

2. _Some_ children are playing games at the party. _Some_ children are dancing at the party. How many more children are playing games than are dancing?

(E.g., Eight children are playing games at the party. Four children are dancing at the party. How many more children are playing games than are dancing? **4 more children**)

# Compare: Larger Quantity Unknown

1. _Someone #1_ bought _some_ chocolate kisses. _Someone #2_ bought _some_ more chocolate kisses than _someone #1_. How many chocolate kisses did _someone #2_ buy?

(E.g., Richelle bought 33 chocolate kisses. Daniel bought 17 more chocolate kisses than Richelle. How many chocolate kisses did Daniel buy? **50 kisses**)

2. Some people went out for Valentine's Day. There are _some_ people in _place #1_. There are _some_ more people in _place #2_ than in _place #1_. How many people are in _place #2_? (

E.g., Some people went out for Valentine's Day. There are 52 people at the movie theatre. There are 29 more people at the pizza place than at the movie theatre. How many people are at the pizza place? **81 people**).

## Compare: Smaller Quantity Unknown

1. _Someone #1_ has _some_ red balloons. She/he has _some_ more red balloons than _someone #2_. How many red balloons does _someone #2_ have?

(E.g., Sophia has 9 red balloons. She has 5 more red balloons than Robert. How many red balloons does Robert have? **4 red balloons**)

2. _Someone #1_ decorated the house for _some_ minutes. _Someone #2_ decorated the house for _some_ fewer minutes than _someone #1_. How many minutes did _someone #2_ decorate for?

(E.g., Andrew decorated the house for 45 minutes. His sister decorated the house for 15 fewer minutes than Andrew. How many minutes did his sister decorate for? **30 minutes**)

## Multiplying with Equal Groups: Product Unknown

1. There were _some_ children. They each had _some_ stuffed animals. How many stuffed animals did they have altogether?

(E.g., There were 8 children. They each had 4 stuffed animals. How many stuffed animals did they have altogether? **32 stuffed animals**)

2. There were _some_ children making chocolate hearts. Each child made _some_ chocolate hearts. How many chocolate hearts did they make altogether?

(E.g., There were 6 children making chocolate hearts. Each child made 4 chocolate hearts. How many chocolate hearts did they make altogether? **24 chocolate hearts**)

# Dividing with Equal Groups: Group Size Unknown

1. *Someone* has *some* pink cupcakes. He/she puts the pink cupcakes into *some* boxes. If he/she puts the same number of pink cupcakes in each box, how many pink cupcakes will be in each box?

(E.g., The baker has 25 pink cupcakes. He puts the pink cupcakes into 5 boxes. If he puts the same number of pink cupcakes in each box, how many pink cupcakes will be in each box? **5 cupcakes**)

2. *Someone* goes to the store and buys *some* red plates for the Valentine's Day party. He/she buys *some* packs of the red plates. If each pack is the same size, how many red plates are in each pack?

(E.g., My mother goes to the store and buys 60 red plates for the Valentine's Day party. She buys 5 packs of the red plates. If each pack is the same size, how many red plates are in each pack? **12 red plates**)

# Dividing with Equal Groups: Number of Groups Unknown

1. The teacher gave *some* Valentine's stickers out to each child. She gave out *some* stickers. How many children received the stickers?

(E.g., The teacher gave 6 Valentine's stickers out to each child. She gave out 42 stickers. How many children received the stickers? **7 children**)

2. The children made *some* bookmarks. Each child made *some* bookmarks. How many children made bookmarks?

(E.g., The children made 81 bookmarks. Each child made 3 bookmarks. How many children made bookmarks? **27 children**)

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