

## Helping Struggling Learners in Math

### Academic Strategies Struggling Learners

- Provide explicit instruction
- Provide rich contexts in the classroom
- Use bar model representation for decoding problems
- Practice basic facts
- Use mnemonics
- Verbalize thinking process before actions
- Provide out-of-class support
- Arrange for cross-age peer tutoring

### Getting to Know the Learner

- Establish trust through providing a safe learning environment
- Ask about past experiences learning math
- Ask the number of times students have changed schools
- Review the cumulative folders to gain insights about the student
- Review norm-referenced test data about students to help them understand how far they are behind, and find out if they believe change is possible
- Ask whether they think effort or natural ability is more important for success in math
- Prove to the student that you will not give up on them

### Mnemonics for Math Problem Solving

#### Ride

- R**ead and understand the problem
- I**dentify the operation
- D**raw a picture of the problem
- E**valuate the answer and check it

#### Tins

- T**hought
- I**nformation
- N**umber sentence
- S**olution sentence

#### Star

- S**earch the word problem
- T**ranslate the problem
- A**nsWER the problem
- R**evIEW the solution

#### Fast Draw

- F**ind what you are solving for
- A**sk yourself, "What information is given?"
- S**et up the equation
- T**ie down the sign
- D**iscover the sign
- R**ead the problem
- A**nsWER the question or draw
- W**rite the answer