

Math Fix-Up Tools

- Make a logical “guesstimate”.
Predict what you think the answer should be.
- Slow down! Sometimes, there is too much information for a mathematician to take in quickly.
- Reread the problem or look again.
- Identify what it is you don’t understand.
- Ask yourself, “Does what I’m doing make sense so far?”
- Engage in “positive self-talk”.
- Connect to background knowledge.
- Try to make a picture in your mind.
- Try solving the problem a different way.
- Revisit your original guess. Are you close? Why or why not?
- Seek help from an outside source.

From *Teaching Numeracy: 9 Critical Habits to Ignite Mathematical Thinking* by Margie Pearse and K.M. Walton: Simplified into this list by Donna Boucher (mathcoachscorner.com)