

# Solve It Strips®

INSPIRED elementary

## BALANCING EQUATIONS ALL OPERATIONS

The image shows a digital tablet interface for a math activity. On the left, a clipboard displays a 'Solve It Strips' strip with three equations:  $132 + \square = 7 + 5$ ,  $15 + \square = 5 \times 7$ , and  $\square + 8 = 70 - 62$ . The strip ends with 'FINISH!'. On the right, a 'Balancing Equations' sheet lists several equations to be balanced, each with a number in a box: 'START:  $\square + 10 = 50 - 44$ ',  $60$   $8 \times \square = 4 \times 12$ ,  $6$   $72 - 40 = \square \times 8$ ,  $4$   $11 \times 2 = 44 - \square$ ,  $22$   $26 - 10 = \square + 8$ ,  $8$   $40 - 12 = 4 \times \square$ . Below these are four empty boxes for answers. At the bottom right of the sheet is the 'INSPIRED elementary' logo and a small copyright notice: '© Inspired Elementary. All rights reserved.'

# DIGITAL VERSION

# HOW TO USE DIGITAL SOLVE IT STRIPS®

**SAMPLE**  
(SUMS & DIFF. SET SHOWN)

Students begin by dragging the START strip to the Solve It Strip.

The 'Solve It Strips' clipboard shows a 'START' strip with the equation  $1 + 1 =$  and an empty answer box. Below it are several numbered strips with equations: 10  $4 + 1 =$ , 8  $5 + 1 =$ , 2  $8 + 1 =$ , 4  $2 + 1 =$ , 3  $10 + 0 =$ , 9  $2 + 2 =$ , 5  $7 + 1 =$ , and 6 **FINISH!**. The 'Sums + 10' board has a 'START' strip with  $1 + 1 =$  and seven empty boxes below it. A pink arrow points from the 'START' strip on the clipboard to the first empty box on the board.

The 'Solve It Strips' clipboard is the same as in the previous step. The 'Sums + 10' board now has the 'START' strip with  $1 + 1 =$  in the first box, and six empty boxes below it.

Next, they solve the problem given on the START strip (ex.  $1 + 1 = 2$ ). So students find the strip that has a 2 in the answer box and drag that below the START strip.

The 'Solve It Strips' clipboard is the same. The 'Sums + 10' board has the 'START' strip with  $1 + 1 =$  in the first box. A pink circle highlights the number 2 in the answer box of the strip with equation  $8 + 1 =$ . A pink arrow points from this circle to the second empty box on the board.

The 'Solve It Strips' clipboard is the same. The 'Sums + 10' board has the 'START' strip with  $1 + 1 =$  in the first box. The strip with equation  $8 + 1 =$  and answer 2 is now in the second box. There are five empty boxes below it.

Students continue on solving the problems on teach strip until they reach the FINISH strip. If students don't end up on the FINISH strip, they didn't do it correctly and need to try again (so it's self-correcting!)

The 'Solve It Strips' clipboard is the same. The 'Sums + 10' board has the 'START' strip with  $1 + 1 =$  in the first box. The strip with equation  $8 + 1 =$  and answer 2 is in the second box. The strip with equation  $2 + 2 =$  and answer 9 is in the third box. There are four empty boxes below it.

The 'Solve It Strips' clipboard is the same. The 'Sums + 10' board has the 'START' strip with  $1 + 1 =$  in the first box. The strip with equation  $8 + 1 =$  and answer 2 is in the second box. The strip with equation  $2 + 2 =$  and answer 9 is in the third box. The strip with equation  $2 + 1 =$  and answer 4 is in the fourth box. The strip with equation  $10 + 0 =$  and answer 3 is in the fifth box. The strip with equation  $4 + 1 =$  and answer 10 is in the sixth box. The strip with equation  $7 + 1 =$  and answer 5 is in the seventh box. The strip with equation  $5 + 1 =$  and answer 8 is in the eighth box. The strip with equation  $6 + 1 =$  and answer 6 is in the ninth box, which is the 'FINISH!' strip.

# DIGITAL SOLVE IT STRIPS<sup>®</sup> ARE ENGAGING & FUN!

Solve It Strips<sup>®</sup>

**7**  $132 \div \square = 7 + 5$

$\square = 5 \times 7$

**20**  $\square \div 8 = 70 - 62$

**64** FINISH!

## Balancing Equations

START:  $\square + 10 = 50 - 44$

**60**  $8 \times \square = 4 \times 12$

**6**  $72 - 40 = \square \times 8$

**4**  $11 \times 2 = 44 - \square$

**22**  $26 - 10 = \square + 8$

**8**  $40 - 12 = 4 \times \square$

**6**

© Inspired Elementary. All rights reserved.





# 15 DIFFERENT SOLVE IT STRIPS<sup>®</sup> IN EACH SET!

**Solve It Strips<sup>®</sup>**

START:  $6 \times 4 = 3 \times \square$

2  $\square \times 4 = 6 \times 2$

20  $15 \times \square = 30$

8  $12 \div \square = 3$

12  $1 \times \square = 12$

9  $3 \times \square = 27$

3  $\square \times 10 = 30$

10  $5 \times 6 = 30$

5  $6 \times \square = 30$

6

**Balancing Equations**

**Solve It Strips<sup>®</sup>**

START:  $\square \div 10 = 50 - 44$

7  $132 \div \square = 7 + 5$

22  $80 \times 5 = 500 - \square$

4  $60 \times 4 = 40 + \square$

70  $500 \div 5 = \square + 25$

40  $60 \times 6 = \square + 300$

150  $210 + 210 = \square \times 6$

75  $100 - \square = 150 \div 3$

100  $\square \times 2 = 200 - 40$

50  $40 + \square = 40 \times 2$

80  $200 + 100 = 150 + \square$

**Balancing Equations**

**Solve It Strips<sup>®</sup>**

START:  $80 \times 5 = 500 - \square$

60  $280 \div 4 = 40 + \square$

70  $500 \div 5 = \square + 25$

40  $60 \times 6 = \square + 300$

150  $210 + 210 = \square \times 6$

75  $100 - \square = 150 \div 3$

100  $\square \times 2 = 200 - 40$

50  $40 + \square = 40 \times 2$

80  $200 + 100 = 150 + \square$

**Balancing Equations**



# EASY CORRECTING WITH ANSWER KEYS & RECORDING SHEETS

**Answer Key - Balancing Equations - All Operations**

<b>1</b> 8 9 5 12 2 2 3 20 10 6	<b>2</b> 4 5 9	<b>3</b> 6 12 9 7	<b>4</b> 25 27 90 60 15	<b>5</b> 1 5 96 3 4 6
---	-------------------------	-------------------------------	--	---

**6**  
60  
6  
4  
22  
8  
7  
2

**11**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## Solve It Strips<sup>®</sup>

### ANSWER RECORDING SHEET

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
START	START	START	START	START	START	START	START	START	START	START	START	START	START	START

