# Using Tools and Strategies to Solve Story Problems 

It all started when Mel found 15 shells on the beach, and she gave some to her sister. . .


There are many ways to solve story problems.

## You can draw a picture with circles.

Story: Mel found 15 shells on the beach. She gave 8 to her sister. How many shells does Mel have left?
I. Draw 15 circles.
2. Cross out 8.
3. Count how many are left over.

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4. Write the equation.
$\underline{15} \bigodot-8$

## You can use ten frames.

Story: Mel found 15 shells on the beach. She gave 8 to her sister. How many shells does Mel have left?
I. Draw 15 dots in the ten frames.
2. Cross out 8.
3. Count how many are left over.

4. Write the equation.
$15 \Theta-8=7$

## You can use a number line.

Story: Mel found 15 shells on the beach. She gave 8 to her sister. How many shells does Mel have left?
I. Start at I5.
2. Make 8 jumps back (because she gave the shells away).
3. The answer is the number where you stop.

4. Write the equation.
$15 \Theta-8=7$

There are many ways to solve story problems.

## Pant-pant-whole helps us organize.

Story: Mel found 15 shells on the beach. She gave 8 to her sister. How many shells does Mel have left?
I. Put I5 in the "whole" box.
2. Put 8 in a "part" box.
3. Count up or back to find the missing number.

4. Write the equation.
$15 \Theta-8=7$

Mel found 8 shells on the beach. She gave 3 to her sister. How many shells does Mel have left?


Jon has 13 balloons. His sister popped some of them. Now he has 7. How many balloons did his sister pop?


Sam has 12 donuts. His friend gave him 2 more. How many does same have now?


Jack has 9 video games. He let his friend Tim borrow some. He has 3 left at his house. How many did Tim borrow?


