

# **Problem Solving Strategies**

1. Act it out or use objects
2. Draw a picture or diagram
3. Use or make a table, chart, or graph
4. Make an organized list
5. Guess and check
6. Use or look for a pattern
7. Work backwards
8. Use logical reasoning
9. Make it simpler
10. Brainstorm
11. Make an equation

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**YOUR NAME**

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**DATE**

Read, *The Seven Chinese Brothers* by Margaret Mahy, Scholastic, 1990.

**Problem Solving:**

“If each of the brothers always eats at least one fish at every meal, how many fish are required to feed the seven brothers for a week?”

Pose the following questions to prepare participants to understand student thinking:

1. How could you solve this problem?
2. How might a student solve this problem?
3. What is the mathematics embedded in this strategy?
4. How could you solve this problem using at least two different strategies?