



LOOK FOR A PATTERN

The strategy Look for a Pattern may be useful to students as they analyze a problem. This strategy can provide students with excellent information that can help them figure out what they need to do to solve the problem as well as find the final solution.

Students can ask the following questions to help themselves get started:

- Is there any information that repeats in the problem?
- Do I see a pattern? (For example, do the values increase or decrease by the same amount each time?)

Examples

Lower Elementary	A B B A B B A B <u> </u> , <u> </u> , <u> </u>											
Upper Elementary	<p>What's the rule?</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="396 1073 781 1274"> <thead> <tr> <th data-bbox="396 1073 586 1115">IN</th> <th data-bbox="586 1073 781 1115">OUT</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td data-bbox="396 1115 586 1157">4</td> <td data-bbox="586 1115 781 1157">12</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="396 1157 586 1199">6</td> <td data-bbox="586 1157 781 1199">18</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="396 1199 586 1241">8</td> <td data-bbox="586 1199 781 1241">24</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="396 1241 586 1274">10</td> <td data-bbox="586 1241 781 1274">30</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>		IN	OUT	4	12	6	18	8	24	10	30
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How You Can Help Your Child with This Strategy at Home

1. As your child completes his or her math work, ask them whether they see any patterns that can help them find a solution. If they do, have them explain why the pattern is helpful.
2. When you're using math in your daily life (for example, measuring, budgeting, or paying a bill at a restaurant or store), look for opportunities to share with your child how you look for and make use of patterns to solve these everyday problems.