

Theresa's story

"It is time for math, and Theresa's class is learning how to multiply 2 digit by 2 digit numbers. This is a brand-new skill for many students in Theresa's class, including Theresa. Theresa has been both excited and nervous about this part of math. What might we draw to show that her mind is excited but also nervous? (Suggestion: In the box that represents Theresa's mind desk, draw two images or shapes of equal sizes and label them "excited" and "nervous").

Theresa just had a really fun recess experience with friends, right before math, and feels really good about her friends this year. What might we put on her mind desk to show how she's feeling or what she's thinking? (Suggestion: Draw a bigger circle or image with friends and a heart in it).

She's also just realized that she is really hungry because she didn't have a big breakfast that morning, her stomach has started to growl. What might we add to her mind desk now that she's hungry? (Suggestion: Draw a shape with hunger in it).

On top of that, Theresa has also been thinking about the fact that she is really missing her mom who has been out of town all week. Each day that she has been gone, Theresa has thought about it more. What should we add to her mind desk now? (Suggestion: Draw an image of Theresa's mom or a shape that is labeled "mom out of town").

Finally, she is thinking about the new math that she is learning and working through practice problems with her teacher. What could we add that would show this? (Suggestion: Draw a shape labeled "learning new math" as the biggest section).

Desmond's story

"Desmond has arrived at school one Monday after a tough morning. It took him a long time to get ready for school and he had to run to the bus stop to catch the bus. He was so late getting there that he didn't get to sit next to his friends. What might we put on his mind desk to show what he's feeling or thinking? (Suggestion: Draw a shape and label it "I might be late!" and "rushed").

One of the reasons he was slow getting ready was because he couldn't stop thinking about how he had scored the winning basket in his basketball game the day before. He kept replaying how he dribbled around two players and then perfectly laid up the ball. What might we add to show that? (Suggestion: Draw a bigger space and label it "winning the game").

He also didn't sleep a lot last night because he was thinking about basketball and getting to tell his friends about the game the next day. What might we add to show what he's thinking or feeling? (Suggestion: Draw a big space and label it "tired." Draw another shape and label it "sharing with friends").

To top it off, when he gets to school, his friend reminds him that they were supposed to finish a book for class over the weekend, which he forgot to do. What might we draw to show what he's feeling or thinking now? (Suggestion: draw an image or shape and label it "missing homework").

He's thinking about all of these things as his teacher is teaching them about the new concept of multiplying two digit by two digit numbers in math. What should we add to Desmond's mind desk now?" (Suggestion: draw an image or shape and label it "new math").