**TEACHER TIP SHEET**

Helping Struggling Learners in Math

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| Academic Strategies Struggling Learners   * Provide explicit instruction * Provide rich contexts in the classroom * Use bar model representation for decoding problems * Practice basic facts * Use mnemonics * Verbalize thinking process before actions * Provide out-of-class support * Arrange for cross-age peer tutoring | | Getting to Know the Learner   * Establish trust through providing a safe learning environment * Ask about past experiences learning math * Ask the number of times students have changed schools * Review the cumulative folders to gain insights about the student * Review norm-referenced test data about students to help them understand how far they are behind, and find out if they believe change is possible * Ask whether they think effort or natural ability is more important for success in math * Prove to the student that you will not give up on them | |
| Mnemonics for Math Problem Solving | | | |
| Ride  Read and understand the problem  Identify the operation  Draw a picture of the problem  Evaluate the answer and check it | Tins  Thought  Information  Number sentence  Solution sentence | Star  Search the word problem  Translate the problem  Answer the problem  Review the solution | Fast Draw  Find what you are solving for  A sk yourself, “What information is given?”  Set up the equation  Tie down the sign  Discover the sign  Read the problem  Answer the question or draw  Write the answer |

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