

Facilitation Guide

This guide provides an overview of common scenarios and questions that may arise during the implementation of the nudge, along with strategies to support its success.

MLR Nudge 6 And the Answer Is...

Recap

This nudge supports students' understanding by having them anticipate the solution format and unit before solving. It focuses their attention on what the solution will look like and connects it to the problem context.



Situation: Students start to solve the problem before exploring the format and unit of solutions.

Helping students focus on the solution format without jumping straight into solving the problem takes practice. Have conversations with students about the importance of this step by explaining how it builds their reasoning skills. You might also consider presenting the problem to students without initially giving them access to writing utensils and paper. This encourages them to engage more with the problem.

Situation: A student questions why they should anticipate the solution if they can just solve it.

You might take time to talk about how this nudge is designed to enhance their problem-solving skills by encouraging them to think critically about the problem before diving into the solution.

Anticipating the solution format and unit can help them identify any potential errors early on and improve their overall reasoning skills.

Emphasize that this practice is not just about getting the right answer, but also about building strong mathematical thinking and reasoning abilities that will benefit them in the long run.



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How do I choose the problems to use?

Don't use this protocol with every question. Instead, choose tasks that have solutions with a variety of formats and units.

Incorporate a mix of problem types to keep students interested and to cover a broad range of skills.

This is ideal for word problems so students can practice deciphering what information they need.

Situation: Students might not understand the expected format or unit of solutions.

Students may struggle to grasp what the solution should look like, or the units involved.

When using this nudge with your students, start by providing clear examples and highlighting examples of problems that result in different formats and units.

Regularly discuss these examples to reinforce their understanding.

