

# NWEA Assessment Item Illustrating K.OA.A.1

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**Domain:** Operations and Algebraic Thinking

**K.OA.A:** Understand addition as putting together and adding to, and understand subtraction as taking apart and taking from.

**Calculator Availability:** No



Jayden has 3 large fish and 2 small fish.

Move a number to each line and a symbol to the box to show how to find the number of fish Jayden has.

—  —

—    +    —    1    2    3    4    5    6    7    8    9

**Alignment: K.OA.A.1:** Represent addition and subtraction with objects, fingers, mental images, drawings, sounds (e.g., claps), acting out situations, verbal explanations, expressions, or equations.

The focus in cluster K.OA.A is understanding the meaning of addition and subtraction. In kindergarten, students work with the four most basic word problem types, as outlined in Table 1 of the CCSS Mathematics Glossary. This item is a one-step, put-together, result unknown problem and is intentionally designed to focus on the *represent* aspect of the standard. Students do not actually solve the problem but are assessed on their ability to translate the real-world scenario into the symbolic representation of an expression.

**Coherence:** This standard represents key foundational work in students' understanding of addition and subtraction. Students will build on this understanding in K.OA.2, in which they will solve word problems within 10. As students progress through grade 1 and grade 2, they will add new problem types to their repertoire and will represent and solve problems in which the unknown is not always the result.<sup>1.OA.A.1, 2.OA.A.1</sup> Moving forward, students in grade 3 will use a letter to represent the unknown.<sup>3.OA.D.8</sup> Using symbols and letters to represent unknowns in all positions lays the foundation for work in algebra and encourages students to develop algebraic understandings long before they are formally introduced to algebraic processes.

**Rigor:** This item attends to conceptual understanding and application. The ability to translate a contextual problem into an expression requires conceptual understanding. This item requires an application in a real-world scenario in which the mathematics required is directly indicated.

**Answer Key:** This item has more than one acceptable correct response. One response is shown here.

Jayden has 3 large fish and 2 small fish.

Move a number to each line and a symbol to the box to show how to find the number of fish Jayden has.

$$\underline{3} \quad \boxed{+} \quad \underline{2}$$

-      +      1      2      3      4      5      6      7      8      9

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