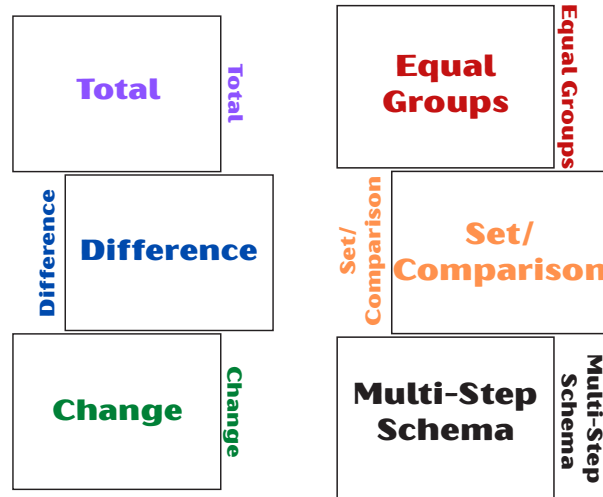


# **SPIRAL Schema Sorting Activity**

## **DIRECTIONS**

**It's time for our Schema Sorting Activity!**

*Display Schema Sorting Cards.  
Display Schema Sorting Mat.*



I will show these cards. On each sorting card, there is a word problem. I will read the problem out loud. Your job is to decide the schema or problem type and sort it on this mat (point). You don't solve the problem. You decide the schema or problem type.

If you think the problem is a Total problem where parts are put together for a total, put the card here (point to Total box).

If you think the problem is a Difference problem where two amounts are compared for a difference, put the card here (point to Difference box).

If you think the problem is a Change problem where there is a starting amount that increases or decreases to a new amount, put the card here (point to Change box).

If you think the problem is an Equal Groups problem where there are groups with an equal number in each group, put the card here (point to Equal Groups box).

If you think the problem is a Set/Comparison problem where there is a set compared a number of times, put the card here (point to Set/Comparison box).

If you think the problem is a Multi-Step problem with more than one schema, put the card here (point to Multi-Step Schema box).

**If you don't know, put the card to the right of the mat (point to the right of the mat).**

**Do you have any questions? Begin.**

*Hold up and read cards for 1 minute.*

**Great! You did a nice job with the sorting. Let's see how many cards are correct.**

*Go through cards and count correct answers (schema names are on back of each card; e.g., Schema: Total; Schema: Total, Equal Groups).*

*If the back of the card says "No Schema," the card is a directive word problem and there is no schema. For directive word problems, students should use the UPS Check attack strategy to set up and solve.*

*After the 1-minute timing, review up to 3 cards to check for conceptual understanding.*

### **Sample Questioning during Review**

**How did you know this was a Total problem? What was missing, the part or the total? How many parts were there? How did you know?**

**How did you know this was a Difference problem? What was the amount that was greater? What was the amount that was less? How did you know?**

**How did you know this was a Change problem? What was missing, the start, change, or end amount? How did you know?**

**How did you know this was an Equal Groups problem? What was missing, the groups, number in each group, or product? How did you know?**

**How did you know this was a Set/Comparison problem?**

**How did you know this was a Multi-Step problem? What were the two (or three) schemas? How did you know?**

**Nice work with the Schema Sorting Activity!**