Planning with Depth and Complexity – J Taylor Education  POPCORN	Patterns	Unanswered Questions
Across Disciplines	Multiple Perspectives	Language of the Discipline
Rules	Details	Trends
Ethics	Big Idea	Over Time



## Mr. Short and Mr. Tall Task



When Mr. Short is measured in paper clips, he is 6 paper clips tall. When he is measured in buttons, he is 4 buttons tall.

Mr. Short has a friend named Mr. Tall. When Mr. Tall is measured in buttons, he is 6 buttons tall.

• How many paper clips tall is Mr. Tall?

Solve this problem as many ways as you can.

Adapted from: Riehl, S.M. and Steinthorsdottir, O.B. (2014). Revisiting Mr. Tall and Mr. Short. *Mathematics Teaching in Middle School*, Volume 20, Number 4, pages 220–228.

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## Planning with Depth and





MR. TALL AND MR. SHORT

What patterns helped you predict the height of Mr. Tall in paper clips?

What questions do you have about solving ratio and proportional relationship problems?







How do you use ratios and proportional relationships in Science?

What comparisons can you make as to how you and your classmates solved the Mr. Tall and Mr. Short problem?

What vocabulary terms (and definitions) are specific to the study of ratios and proportional relationships?







How did the structure of the ratios you wrote help you solve the Mr. Tall and Mr. Short problem?

What makes Mr. Tall and Mr. Short a ratios and proportional relationship problem?

What dilemmas did you face when attempting to solve the Mr. Tall and Mr. Short problem?







What struggles do you feel when you have to solve a problem with ratios that do not have common denominators?

What general statement best describes the Mr. Tall and Mr. Short problem?

What kind of connections can you make from working with fractions in 5<sup>th</sup> grade to working with ratios in 6<sup>th</sup> grade?

## **Pruning Trees Task**



It takes Keith 45 minutes to prune a tree. It takes Richard 70 minutes to a prune a tree. They form a company and agree to prune 92 trees.

- If they both work at the same time and at constant rates, how long will it take them to prune all 92 trees?
- How many trees will each have pruned?

Solve this problem as many ways as you can.

QUESTION MATRIX - Chuck Wiederhold						
	Event	Situation	Choice	Person	Reason	Means
Present	What is?	Where When is?	Which did?	Who is?	Why is?	How is?
Past	What did?	Where When did?	Which did?	Who did?	Why did?	How did?
Possibility	What can?	Where When can?	Which can?	Who can?	Why can?	How can?
Probability	What would?	Where When would?	Which would?	Who would?	Why would?	How would?
Prediction	What will?	Where When will?	Which will?	Who will?	Why will?	How will?
Imagination	What might?	Where When might?	Which might?	Who might?	Why might?	How might?

QUESTION MATRIX - Pruning Trees						
	Event	Situation	Choice	Person	Reason	Means
Present	What is the problem asking you to find out?	When is OK to stop listing multiples if trying to find the LCM?	Which unit rate is given?	Who is planting trees at a faster rate?	Why is 'guess and test' a reasonable strategy for this problem?	How is your approach to the problem the same or different than your classmates?
Past	What did you do first when solving this problem?	Where did you begin in solving this problem?	Which strategy did you choose to solve this problem?	Who did list multiples of 40 and 75?	Why did some students think it would take the boys 115 minutes to prune one tree?	<b>How did</b> you set up the problem?
Possibility	What equations can represent this problem?	When can solving a simpler problem help with solving this problem?	Which other unit rate can you use?	Who can set up this problem using 'nice numbers'?	Why can you use part to part ratios to solve the problem? part to total parts??	How can knowing the same number of minutes help to solve the problem?
Probability	What ratios would represent this problem?	When would someone suggest it takes the boys 57.5 minutes to plant one tree?	Which unit rate would you use to solve the problem?	Who would try to find out how many trees each boy could prune in one hour?	Why would you need more than one ratio table to solve this problem?	How would the LCM help you solve this problem?
Prediction	What will happen if you find the same number of trees for each boy?	When Keith prunes one tree, how many trees will Richard prune?	Which will make more sense: making the number of trees the same or making the number of minutes the same?	Who will plant more trees in the same time period?	Why will finding the LCM relate to finding the solution to this problem?	How will you write the two equations for a system of equations?
Imagination	What might happen if you find the same number of minutes for each boy?	When might you use estimation to solve the problem?	Which algorithm might help you find the LCM in an efficient way?	Who might use a single equation to solve the problem?	Why might you use a ratio table to solve this problem?	How might you approach the problem using a system of equations?