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## Beginning Word Problems

Key words in a problem tell you whether to add or subtract. "In all" tells you to add. "Left" tells you to subtract. Read each problem. Circle the key word or words. Write + or - in the circle. Then solve the problem

The boys are playing tennis. Jack has 3 tennis balls. His friend Mike has 2 tennis balls. How many tennis balls do they have in all?
$32=$ $\qquad$

Sierra and 5 friends eat lunch. Then 2 of her friends leave for gym class. How many of Sierra's friends are left?
$52=$ $\qquad$

John sees 4 fire trucks in the front of his school. He sees 1 more in the back of his school. How many fire trucks are there in all?
$41=$ $\qquad$
$\qquad$
$\qquad$

## Beginning Word Problems

## Answers

Key words in a problem tell you whether to add or subtract. "In all" tells you to add. "Left" tells you to subtract. Read each problem. Circle the key word or words. Write + or - in the circle. Then solve the problem

The boys are playing tennis. Jack has 3 tennis balls. His friend Mike has 2 tennis balls. How many tennis balls do they have in all?

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3+2=5
$$

Sierra and 5 friends eat lunch. Then 2 of her friends leave for gym class. How many of Sierra's friends are left?
$5-2=\ldots 3$

John sees 3 fire trucks in the front of his school. He sees 1 more in the back of his school. How many fire trucks are there in all?
$3+1=4$

