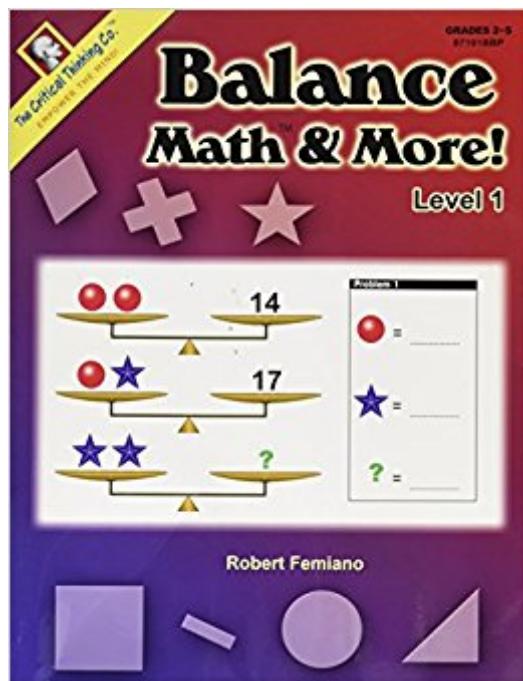


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# Balance Math & More! Level 1 (Grades 2-5)



## **Synopsis**

This fun, mind-building 48-page book is made up of three types of puzzles that focus on addition and subtraction of whole numbers. These puzzles also sharpen students' critical thinking, computational, and algebraic reasoning skills. 1. Balance Math Puzzles require students to analyze balances to deduce the missing value. 2. Inside-Out Math Puzzles require students to reverse their thinking, using the inverse relationships between addition and subtraction and multiplication and division to solve the puzzle. 3. Tic Tac Math Puzzles require students to figure out the correct order to complete all rows, columns, and diagonals. This book's spiraling difficulty is designed to scaffold a student's conceptual understanding of the targeted operations. Teaching suggestions and detailed solutions are included in each book. Try one of these intriguing puzzlesâ "and then try to stop!

## **Book Information**

Series: Balance Math and More! (Book 1)

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## **Customer Reviews**

This fun, mind-building 48-page book is made up of three types of puzzles that focus on addition and subtraction of whole numbers. These puzzles also sharpen students' critical thinking, computational, and algebraic reasoning skills. 1. Balance Math Puzzles require students to analyze balances to deduce the missing value. 2. Inside-Out Math Puzzles require students to reverse their thinking, using the inverse relationships between addition and subtraction and multiplication and division to solve the puzzle. 3. Tic Tac Math Puzzles require students to figure out the correct order to complete all rows, columns, and diagonals. This book's spiraling difficulty is designed to scaffold a student's conceptual understanding of the targeted operations.

Teaching suggestions and detailed solutions are included in each book. Try one of these intriguing puzzlesâ “and then try to stop!

Both my 5th grader and my 3rd grader children love this book. They find it to be fun. There are just 3 kinds of problems in the book: Balance Math, Inside-Out Math, and Tick-Tack Math and they alternate on the pages and get progressively harder. Both my kids like the Balance Math the best. I find it as a good way to let them work on math in a different way then just doing math facts. They probably do it once or twice a week (trying to stretch it out over time).

My daughter loves this book. She was a little bored with the standard drill type problems in other math worksheets. Balance Math is challenging but fun and she consistently asks for it. My only complaint is that the book should be twice as long - my daughter is starting to reach the point where the math is getting too advanced for her (she doesn't work well with numbers >100 yet), and she wishes there were a few more pages of the easier problems so that she could have more practice with manipulating larger numbers less than 100. We will take a break from Balance Math for now but definitely come back to it later.

I teach GT at the elementary level and am constantly looking for ways to challenge the kids while holding their interest. They LOVE this and beg me to do more. They want it for homework! The problems in the book get progressively more difficult, but there are clues in the back for those who get stumped. (balance problems only) The book has several types of problems throughout- one is a tic tac toe type of grid where kids have to find the missing numbers so that each row and column has the same sum (like magic squares), but I find these are too difficult. There are also multistep problems where  $a + c = 72$  and you know that  $a = 28$ , find the value of c. These aren't as much fun as the balance problems. I only do the balance problems with my kids. They are 2 multistep problems per page (which is another reason why the kids probably like it). I highly recommend this book to any math teacher or parent of a kid who fears algebra.

Fantastic resource for grade 4 learners.

We love The Critical Thinking Co. resources!

Money well-spent for extra math work! Very fun thinking "games" that don't feel like "homework".

Highly recommended! Tape a dollar bill in the back with a deadline to encourage your child to complete the book by a certain date!

We used this book with our 7 year old how (for some reason) really enjoys math. The were challenging but doable for him!

teaching your child how to think algebraically without introducing variables yet. really gets the mind working in ways that are different than they do in a regular classroom.

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