**Problem Solving**

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**Definitions:**

1. **Inductive Reasoning**
   a. Use observations or examples to come up with a **general conclusion**.

2. **Deductive Reasoning**
   a. Given a general statement, one can reach a **specific conclusion**.

**Summary of the Problem Solving Strategy:**

1. **What’s the problem asking?**
   a. Read the problem very carefully.
   b. Circle all the important information, or list all the important information to the side.
   c. Draw a diagram.
   d. Label the diagram with the important info and with anything you know for sure.
   e. Do you have enough information to solve the problem?

2. **Come up with a plan on how to solve the problem.**
   a. Can you rewrite the problem in a simpler way?
   b. Would using a table help?
   c. Look for patterns.
   d. What answer do you need? What do you need to get that? Work backwards.
   e. Plan out the steps that you will need to follow.

3. **Follow your plan.**

4. **Check your answer**
   a. Does this answer make sense?
   b. Is this answer in the form that the question asked?
   c. Can you check your answer using a different method than your plan?