

CHANGE IN DIRECTION

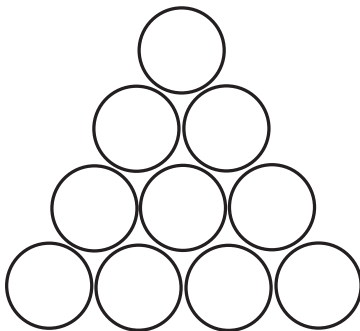
You can solve problems by approaching them from different directions. Can you move coins in the triangle to change the direction it's pointing?



MATERIALS: Ten coins or bits of paper.

DOING IT:

1. Arrange the objects in the shape of a triangle, as shown.



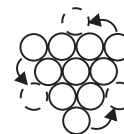
2. The challenge is to make the triangle point in the opposite direction. You can move only *three* of the objects.

The following letters are in a logical sequence: O, T, T, F, F, S. Can you figure out the pattern? What are the next four letters?

Answer: The missing letters are S, E, N, T. The sequence is one, two, three, four, five, six, seven, eight, nine, ten.

One way to solve a problem is simply to jump in and start trying things. This is called trial and error. The approach isn't bad, if you get a solution before you get frustrated. A better strategy for solving the coin problem is to think about where you want to end up -- and work backwards from there.

Topics: Problem-Solving; Decision-Making.



A Possible Solution:

