Spotlight on Math Models:

Tape Diagrams

You will often see this mathematical representation in A Story of Units.

$ 6 W R U \ R I 8 Q L W V K D V V H Y H U D O N H \
will be used through R X W D V W X G H Q W ・ V H O H

The tape diagram is a powerful model that students can use to solve various kinds of problems. In second grade, you will often see this model as an aid to additi   on and V X E W U D F W L R Q S U R E O H P V   7 D S H G L D J U D P V D U H D simple bar drawing that students make and adjust to fit a word problem. They then use the drawing to discuss and solve the problem.

As students move through the gra des, tape diagrams provide an essential bridge to algebra. Below is a sample word problem from Module 2 solved using a tape diagram t o show the parts of the problem .

(Example taken from Lesson 3, Module 2)

Robin is 11 years old. Her mother, Gwen, is 2 years more W K D Q   W L P H V 5 R E L old is Gwen?