

# A Fear of Heights

## Word Problem

Mrs. Wordly is afraid of heights. She doesn't like to climb ladders, but one day she decided to try. The ladder she used had only five steps. When she got to the *third* step, she said to herself, "I think I'm *halfway* there."

Is Mrs. Wordly right?

## Talk About It

- ✦ What is Mrs. Wordly afraid of?
- ✦ What does *halfway there* mean?
- ✦ If she is halfway to the top, can there be *more* steps *above* her than *below* her?

## Picture It *Materials: paper and pencil*

Draw a ladder with five steps. Mark the step that Mrs. Wordly is on. How many steps are above her? How many steps are below her?

## Solution

Yes, Mrs. Wordly is halfway to the top.

# Line Dancing

## Word Problem

One of the Wordly girls is learning how to line dance. In line dancing, the boys and girls need to *pair* up. At one line dancing class, there were seven girls and five boys.

How many *more* girls than boys were there?

## Talk About It

- ✦ Are we trying to find out how many boys and girls there were in all? What is the question?
- ✦ If there were the *same* number of girls as boys, how many girls would there be? (five)

## Act It Out

Let's count out boys and girls to represent the children in the class. These children can stand in front of the classroom and pair up for line dancing. How many pairs are there? How many girls are left?

## Solution

There were two more girls than boys.