USING <u>EASY</u> OR <u>NICE</u> NUMBERS TO UNDERSTAND AND SOLVE PROBLEMS

messy numbers:	examples:
many non-zero digits	5079432
many decimal places	29.83875
mixed fractional numbers	198 2/3
large numerators or denominators	25/49
unfamiliar units	19.6 kilograms

The first column lists some messy numbers.
In the second column replace each messy number example with an easy or nice number which makes sense.
In the third column explain why your replacement number is an easy or nice number.

messy number	replacement number	why replacement is easy or nice
5079432		
29.83875		
198 2/3		
25/49		
19.6 kilograms		

STRATEGY

Identify (underline or circle) the messy numbers in a problem.

Replace the messy numbers with easy or nice numbers which make sense in the problem.

Set up the problem with easy numbers.

Set up and solve the original problem.

example:

If a computer prints invoices at a rate of ~~1932~~ 2000 per hour, how many invoices does it print in ~~37 1/2~~ 40 hours?

Set up the easy problem.   Set up and solve the original problem.

2000 invoices each hour for 40 hours   1932 invoices each hour for $37\frac{1}{2}$ hours

2000 X 40 =   1932 X $37\frac{1}{2}$ =

2. How many pieces of material that are 6 1/4 yards long can be cut from a bolt of

material that is 43 3/4 yards long?

Set up the easy problem here: Set up and solve the original problem here:
Include a sketch.

3. A full section of pipe is 18 1/4 feet long. If 22 full sections and one-half of another

section are laid end to end in a straight line, what is the total length of the pipeline?

Set up the easy problem here: Set up and solve the original problem here:
Include a sketch.

3. During one year you spent the following on your car: gas and oil, $1490.26; repairs,

$295.47; insurance and license fees $650; and tires, $275.75. If you drove 19,500 miles

that year, what was the cost per mile for driving your car?

Set up the easy problem here: Set up and solve the original problem here: