Coding the Alphabet



The intent of this task is to have students demonstrate their ability to perform simple addition, as well as to weigh the effects of multiple solutions to a problem.

- 1a. $\{COW\} = 41$ $\{DOG\} = 26$ $\{PIG\} = 32$ $\{LION\} = 50$ $\{DEER\} = 32$ $\{BEAR\} = 26$
- **b.** One must find an animal name that is fairly long and that has some high-valued letters. One example is {RHINOCEROS} = (124); another is {HIPPOPOTAMUS} = 169.
- 2. There are six possible values for each letter, as shown on the following table:

0	Ν	Т
0	5	7
1	4	6
2	3	5
3	2	4
4	1	3
5	0	2

Since **O** must have the same value in each use, there is only one solution, O=2,N=3,T=5 which gives nine as the value of **TOO**; this is a unique solution.

	partial level	full level
Modeling/ Formulating (weight: 0)		
Transforming/ Manipulating (weight: 2)	Correctly calculate the values of the given animal names.	Additionally, find an animal name with a value between 100 and 200, and correctly calculate this value.
Inferring/ Drawing Conclusions (weight: 2)	Find some of the possible solutions for 2a .	Find all of the solutions to 2a and recognize that adding an additional requirement leads to a unique solution of the problem.
Communicating (weight: 1)	Present calculations and answers in a clear form, but without showing details (sums of appropriate numbers) or an orderly pattern for listing the possibilities in 2 .	Present all calculations and answers in an organized and clear form, with supporting detail where appropriate.