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Note: The Virginia *Standards of Learning* put a heavy emphasis on problem solving, which is integrated throughout all six content strands. Similarly, the *Curriculum Framework* makes the application of problem-solving strategies, mathematical communication, and mathematical reasoning an essential component of every SOL. Therefore, developing problem-solving skills should be a major focus of mathematics instruction in Virginia.

This is the approach taken by *SOL Grand Slam*. Lesson 1 teaches SALSA™, a process for analyzing problems, thinking about them, and applying mathematical skills and knowledge. Lesson 2 reviews common problem-solving strategies. These strategies and SALSA™ are then interwoven throughout the book, leading to their continuous reinforcement.