Table 10.1 *Overcoming Challenges to Teaching Word Problems*		
Problem-solving step	Potential challenges	Supports and instruction to address the challenge
1. Read the problem	Underdeveloped reading skills	Use read-aloud of text by a person or technology
2. Understand the problem	Underdeveloped language skills; limited background knowledge; underdeveloped numeracy skills	Use familiar themes; write problem with considerate text; use numbers student understands (e.g., < 10)
3. Translate the problem into a mathematical structure	Underdeveloped math skills; lack of reasoning skills	Use a graphic organizer; use systematic instruction to teach student to translate from word problem into the graphic organizer
4. Solve the problem	Underdeveloped math skills	Use virtual or concrete manipulatives; teach to use a calculator; use a task analysis to teach step-by-step computation
5. Generalize to a real-life context	Difficulty in generalizing across materials and settings	Use real-life story problems and real-life manipulatives in classroom; set up context to solve a similar problem in another activity during the day (e.g., purchasing, job task, cooking)