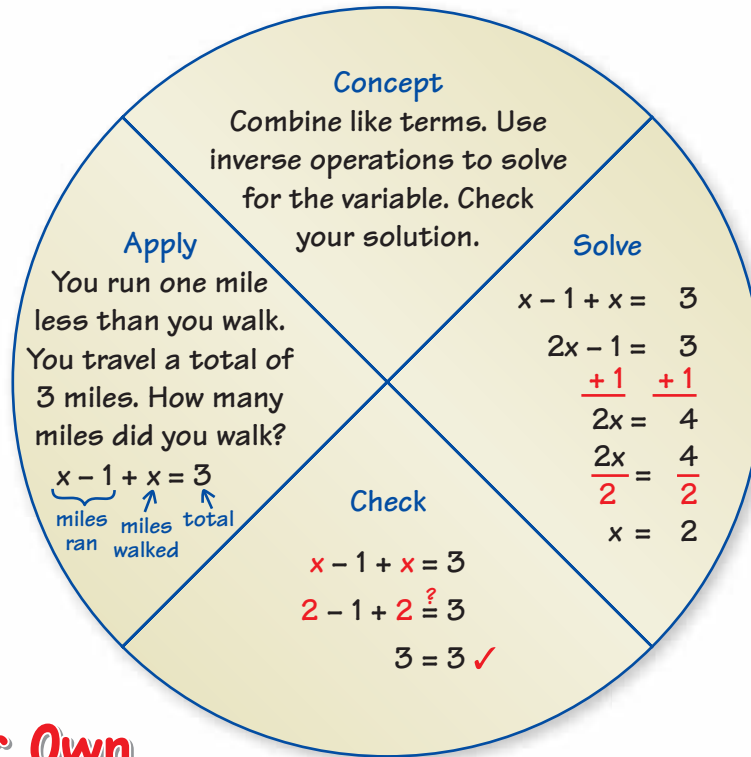You can use a **concept circle** to organize information about a concept. Here is an example of a concept circle for combining like terms to solve an equation.

Combining Like Terms to Solve an Equation

Concept
Combine like terms. Use inverse operations to solve for the variable. Check your solution.

Apply
You run one mile less than you walk. You travel a total of 3 miles. How many miles did you walk?

$$x - 1 + x = 3$$

miles ran | miles walked | total

Solve

$$x - 1 + x = 3$$
$$2x - 1 = 3$$
$$\underline{+1 \qquad +1}$$
$$2x = 4$$
$$\frac{2x}{2} = \frac{4}{2}$$
$$x = 2$$

Check

$$x - 1 + x = 3$$
$$2 - 1 + 2 \overset{?}{=} 3$$
$$3 = 3 \checkmark$$

On Your Own

Make a concept circle to help you study these topics.

1. using the distributive property to solve an equation

2. solving an equation with variables on both sides

3. solving an equation using a table

4. solving an equation using a graph

After you complete this chapter, make concept circles for the following topics.

5. finding the slope of a line

6. graphing a line using a point and a slope

7. identifying slope and y-intercept

8. graphing a line using slope-intercept form

9. graphing a linear function

Concept
Dog biscuits as rewards

Justify
Newton is always hungry.

Example
LIVER
CHEESE

Apply
Woof! Woof!

Yes, you got your point across!

"Do you think this concept circle will help my owner understand that 'Speak' and 'Sit' need motivation?"