

**Moving Straight Ahead Teaching Aid 3.3A: Set 3 Student Thinking**

$$3(x + 1) = 21$$

**Corry's Solution**

3 times something in the parentheses must be 21.

So  $3(\quad) = 21$ .

The something is 7.

So  $x + 1 = 7$ , and

$x = 6$ .

$$2 + 3(x + 1) = 6x$$

**Hadden's Solution**

$2 + 3(x + 1)$  is equivalent to  $5(x + 1)$ .

So I can rewrite the original equation as  $5(x + 1) = 6x$ .

Using the Distributive Property, this is the same as

$$5x + 5 = 6x.$$

Subtracting  $5x$  from each side, I get  $5 = 1x$ .

So  $x = 5$ .

$$-2(2x - 3) = -2$$

**Jackie's Solution**

By using the Distributive Property on the left-hand side of the equality, I get  $-4x - 6 = -2$ .

By adding 6 to each side, I get  $-4x = 4$ .

By dividing both sides by  $-4$ , I get  $x = -1$ .