Directions for Cars on the Parking Lot

The Word document tells the problem, and gives students space to set up and solve the problem manually. The Excel spreadsheet is a template you can save to the shared drive for all students to use.

All the students have to do on the Excel template is highlight the numbers in each column (one at a time at first). Three highlighted numbers is enough for the computer to recognize a pattern. Then students point to the lower right corner of the last highlighted cell in the group. When the cursor changes to a cross bar, they click-hold-and drag down to the 20th day to see the pattern grow!

They can do it one column at a time at first, then clear the cell contents and do all 3 columns at once. This really gives them an appreciation for the work-saving power of the computer!

Thank you to Jeanette Bueno, LISD, for sharing this resource.