Multiplication and Division Word Problems

Explore ideas and representations

Name _____ **Date** _____ **Score** _____ / 8

QUICK REVIEW

Ask what is unknown. Equal groups with an unknown total use multiplication: 4 bags of 3 apples give $4 \times 3 = 12$. A known total shared equally uses division: $12 \div 4 = 3$ apples per bag. Include the unit in your answer.

Worked example

Share 21 pebbles equally among 3 children. How many does each child get?

1. Each of the 3 children gets the same share: $21 \div 3 = 7$.
2. Check all shares: $3 \times 7 = 21$ pebbles.
Answer: 7 pebbles per child.

Practice Problems

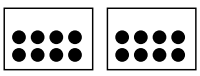
Show your thinking.

1. A shelf has 3 rows of 7 shells. Write an equation. Label the groups and the amount in each.

2. Share 24 stickers equally among 4 children. How many does each child get?

3. Put 20 buttons into groups of 5. How many groups can you make?

4. A teacher fills 2 boxes with 8 counters in each. The picture shows the boxes. How many counters are there altogether? Write an equation.



5. 18 beads fill bags of 6 beads. Lee says the quotient 3 means beads per bag. Correct the label.

6. 4 teams each receive 7 cards. Find the starting total, then write a sharing equation.

7. A class needs 26 pencils. There are 3 packs with 9 each. Are there enough? How many extra?

8. 5 teams each have 5 tiles. How many tiles do the teams have altogether? Show a sum and a multiplication equation.

Answer Key

1. $3 \times 7 = 21$ shells.
2. 6 stickers per child.
3. 4 groups.
4. $2 \times 8 = 16$ counters; 2 groups, 8 in each.
5. 3 bags; 6 beads per bag.
6. 28 cards; $28 \div 4 = 7$.
7. Yes; 27 pencils, with 1 extra.
8. $5 + 5 + 5 + 5 + 5 = 25$; $5 \times 5 = 25$ tiles.

Step-by-Step Solutions

Follow each calculation, then check your own work.

Problem 1

1. There are 3 rows, and each row has 7 shells.
2. Multiply the equal rows: $3 \times 7 = 21$ shells.

Problem 2

1. Each of the 4 children gets the same share: $24 \div 4 = 6$.
2. Check all shares: $4 \times 6 = 24$ stickers.

Problem 3

1. Each group uses 5 buttons; 4 groups use $4 \times 5 = 20$.
2. Therefore $20 \div 5 = 4$ counts groups, not buttons in one group.

Problem 4

1. Count 2 boxes and 8 counters in each box.
2. Add the groups: $8 + 8 = 16$.
3. The equation $2 \times 8 = 16$ counts all 16 counters.

Problem 5

1. $18 \div 6 = 3$ because $3 \times 6 = 18$.
2. The size 6 beads per bag is already given; the unknown 3 is the number of bags.

Problem 6

1. Combine the shares: $4 \times 7 = 28$ cards.
2. Sharing the total again gives $28 \div 4 = 7$ per team.

Problem 7

1. The packs contain $3 \times 9 = 27$ pencils.
2. $27 - 26 = 1$, so the packs have 1 more than needed.

Problem 8

1. There are 5 equal addends; each addend is 5.
2. Add the equal team amounts: $5 + 5 + 5 + 5 + 5 = 25$ tiles.
3. The equal groups give $5 \times 5 = 25$ tiles altogether.

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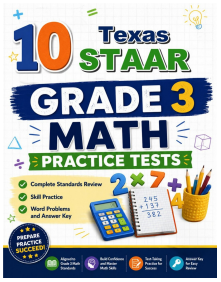

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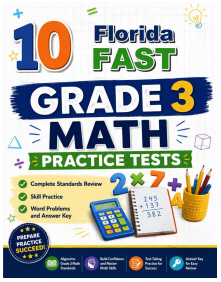

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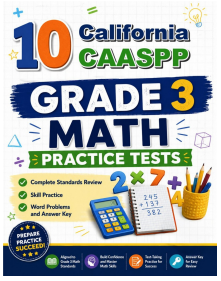

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