

Grade 3 - Understanding Division - Lesson

Common Core 3.OA.A.2, 3.OA.A.4, 3.OA.B.6 · maths-pdf.fr/en/

This **division meaning lesson** for 3rd Grade covers understanding division (Common Core 3.OA.A.2, 3.OA.A.4, 3.OA.B.6), with a free PDF to print.

Division means splitting a total into equal groups. In $24 \div 4 = 6$, the total is 24, you divide by 4, and the quotient is 6. You can share equally to find the size of each group, or make groups of a set size to find how many groups. Each division fact is an unknown-factor problem.

Grade 3 · Common Core State Standards: **3.OA.A.2, 3.OA.A.4, 3.OA.B.6**

Key facts in this division meaning lesson

Key facts

- Division finds the size of each group or the number of groups.
- In $24 \div 4 = 6$, the 24 is the dividend, the 4 is the divisor, and the 6 is the quotient.
- Dividing 42 by 6 asks: 6 times what number makes 42?
- An unknown can be in any spot, as in $8 \times ? = 48$, $? \div 3 = 5$, or $24 \div ? = 8$.
- Check any division answer by multiplying the quotient by the divisor.

What does division mean?

Division splits a total into equal parts. It answers two kinds of questions. One question asks how many are in each group. The other asks how many groups you can make.

Dividend, divisor, quotient

In $24 \div 4 = 6$, the **dividend** (24) is the total, the **divisor** (4) is what you divide by, and the **quotient** (6) is the answer.

What is the difference between sharing and grouping?

Sharing: Maya shares 24 stickers equally among 4 friends. Each friend gets 6 stickers, so $24 \div 4 = 6$.



Sharing 24 stickers among 4 friends: 6 each.

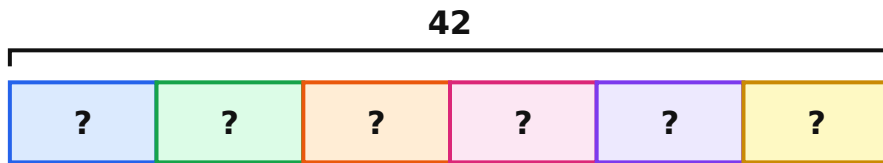
Grouping: Liam packs 20 pretzels into bags of 5. He fills 4 bags, so $20 \div 5 = 4$.



20 pretzels in bags of 5: 4 bags.

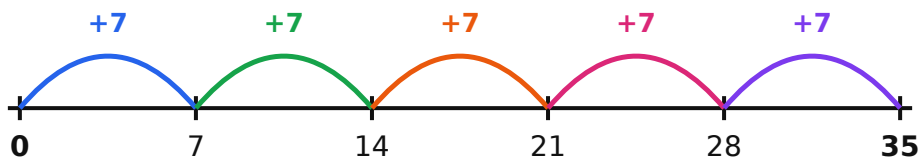
How is division related to multiplication?

Every division fact has a multiplication partner. To find $42 \div 6$, ask: 6 times what number makes 42? Write $6 \times ? = 42$. Because $6 \times 7 = 42$, the quotient is 7. This is called finding an **unknown factor**.



6 equal parts make 42, so each part is 7.

A number line can also help. Jumps of 7 from 0 reach 35 after 5 jumps, so $35 \div 7 = 5$.



5 jumps of 7 reach 35.

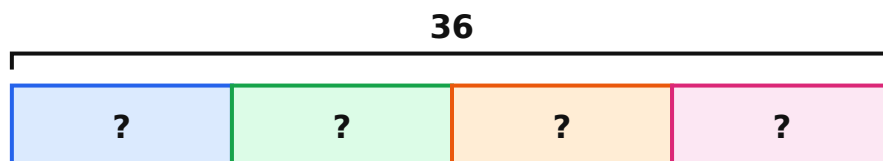
How do you find an unknown number in an equation?

Equation	Think	Unknown
$8 \times ? = 48$	8 times what is 48?	6
$? \div 3 = 5$	What total shared by 3 gives 5?	15
$24 \div ? = 8$	24 split into groups of 8 gives how many?	3

1. Read the equation and find the unknown.

2. Write a related multiplication equation.
3. Find the missing number.
4. Check by multiplying.

Example. Aisha puts 36 crayons into 4 equal boxes. How many crayons are in each box?



36 crayons in 4 equal boxes.

Write $36 \div 4 = ?$, or $4 \times ? = 36$. Since $4 \times 9 = 36$, each box has **9 crayons**.

Division meaning lesson: questions and answers

What is the difference between sharing and grouping?

Sharing splits a total into a set number of equal groups and asks how many are in each. Grouping puts a set number in each group and asks how many groups. Both use division.

How can multiplication help with division?

Division asks for a missing factor. To find $35 \div 5$, think 5 times what number is 35. Since $5 \times 7 = 35$, the answer is 7.

What do the dividend, divisor, and quotient mean?

The dividend is the total being split. The divisor is the number you divide by. The quotient is the answer. In $18 \div 3 = 6$, they are 18, 3, and 6.

How do you find an unknown in $24 \div ? = 8$?

Rewrite it as a multiplication: $8 \times ? = 24$. Since $8 \times 3 = 24$, the unknown is 3. Check: $24 \div 3 = 8$.

Can the unknown be the dividend?

Yes. In $? \div 3 = 5$, the total is missing. Think $5 \times 3 = 15$, so the unknown is 15. Check: $15 \div 3 = 5$.

How to use this division meaning lesson

Read the definitions first, then follow the worked method line by line and redo the example on paper without looking. When every step makes sense, move on to the worksheet, then check yourself with the quiz.

Download the division meaning lesson as a PDF with the button below and keep it with your notes.