

Groups Tell Stories

Read multiplication as equal groups.

GRADE 3 • 3.OA.A.1

CCSS.Math.Content.3.OA.A.1 "Interpret products of whole numbers, e.g., interpret 5×7 as the total number of objects in 5 groups of 7 objects each. For example, describe a context in which a total number of objects can be expressed as 5×7 ."

NAME _____

DATE _____

WHAT A PRODUCT MEANS

In a multiplication expression, the first number tells how many groups there are. The second number tells how many are in each group. Multiply to find the total in all the equal groups.

WORKED EXAMPLE

Interpret 3×8 .

1. The first factor, 3, means 3 groups.
2. The second factor, 8, means 8 objects in each group.
3. $3 \times 8 = 24$.

Answer: 3 groups of 8 objects, or 24 objects total.

PRACTICE 6 problems

- 1** Complete the sentence: 2×7 means ____ groups of ____ objects.

ANSWER _____

- 2** There are 6 bags with 4 marbles in each bag. Write a multiplication expression and find the total number of marbles.

ANSWER _____

- 3** Which situation matches 5×9 ? A. 9 boxes with 5 crayons in each box B. 5 boxes with 9 crayons in each box

ANSWER _____

- 4** A teacher puts 2 pencils in each of 10 cups. Write an expression for the total number of pencils.

ANSWER _____

- 5** Complete the sentence: 7×6 means 7 groups of ____ objects. The total is ____.

ANSWER _____

- 6** A sticker sheet has 9 rows with 5 stickers in each row. Write the multiplication expression and the total number of stickers.

ANSWER _____

APPLY IT Show your work

- 1** Jayden makes 4 teams for a playground game. Each team has 12 players. How many players are on the teams altogether?

WORK SPACE

ANSWER _____

- 2** A library has 11 shelves with 2 comic books on each shelf. How many comic books are on the shelves?

WORK SPACE

ANSWER _____

CHALLENGE One step up

CHALLENGE

A game has 6 prize bags with 7 cards in each bag. Which expression better matches the story, 6×7 or 7×6 ? Explain why, then find the total number of cards.

PART 1 • PRACTICE

#	PROBLEM	ANSWER
1	Complete the sentence: 2×7 means ____ groups of ____ objects.	2 groups of 7 objects
2	There are 6 bags with 4 marbles in each bag. Write a multiplication expression and find the total number of marbles.	$6 \times 4 = 24$ marbles
3	Which situation matches 5×9 ? A. 9 boxes with 5 crayons in each box B. 5 boxes with 9 crayons in each box	B. 5 boxes with 9 crayons in each box
4	A teacher puts 2 pencils in each of 10 cups. Write an expression for the total number of pencils.	10×2
5	Complete the sentence: 7×6 means 7 groups of ____ objects. The total is ____.	6 objects; 42
6	A sticker sheet has 9 rows with 5 stickers in each row. Write the multiplication expression and the total number of stickers.	$9 \times 5 = 45$ stickers

PART 2 • APPLY IT

- 48 players** There are 4 equal groups of 12 players. Multiply 4×12 to get 48.
- 22 comic books** There are 11 groups of 2 comic books. Multiply 11×2 to get 22.

CHALLENGE

6×7 matches because there are 6 bags with 7 cards in each bag. $6 \times 7 = 42$ cards.

Accept equivalent wording such as "6 groups of 7" or "6 sets of 7." For multiplication expressions, accept a correct expression with or without the total when the problem asks only for an expression.