LESSON MAKER PRO

Two-Step Stories

Write an equation, solve, and check.

GRADE 3 · 3.AT.A.2

3.AT.A.2 "Use the four operations to solve two-step problems in context (within number limits for each operation as stated in 3.NOS.B and 3.NOS.D). Represent these problems using equations with a letter standing for the unknown quantity..."

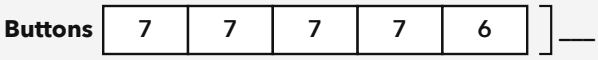
NAME _____ DATE _____

TWO STEPS, ONE UNKNOWN

Decide what happens first, then use that result in the next step. Write an equation with ___ for the unknown, and estimate to check whether your answer makes sense.

WORKED EXAMPLE

Four jars hold 7 buttons each. There are 6 extra buttons. How many buttons are there in all?



1. ___ = 4 × 7 + 6
2. 4 × 7 = 28
3. 28 + 6 = 34
4. About 30 + 6 is 36, so 34 makes sense.

Answer: 34 buttons

PRACTICE 4 problems

1 Two trays hold 11 muffins each. Add 9 more muffins. Write an equation with ___ and find the total.

ANSWER _____

2 A club has 40 beads. It uses 16, then splits the rest into 3 equal bags. Write an equation with ___ and find the beads in each bag.

ANSWER _____

3 Five teams earn 9 points each, then lose 12 points in all. Write an equation with ___ and find their total score.

ANSWER _____

4 Mia has 18 cards and gets 27 more. She makes 5 equal piles. Write an equation with ___ and find the cards in each pile.

ANSWER _____

APPLY IT Show your work

1 A school fair has 5 packs of 19 tickets. Students use 21 tickets. How many remain? Write an equation with ___, solve, and round to check.

WORK SPACE

ANSWER _____

2 You have 42 stickers and win 18 more. You share them equally among 5 friends. How many does each friend get? Write an equation with ___ and solve.

WORK SPACE

ANSWER _____

CHALLENGE One step up

A game booth starts with 3 rolls of 18 tickets. After some are sold, 25 are left. How many were sold? Write an equation with ___, solve, and use rounding to check.

WORK SPACE AND ANSWER

ANSWER KEY

Two-Step Stories

GRADE 3 · 3.AT.A.2

PART 1 · PRACTICE

#	PROBLEM	ANSWER
1	Two trays hold 11 muffins each. Add 9 more muffins. Write an equation with ___ and find the total.	**___ = 2 × 11 + 9; 31 muffins**
2	A club has 40 beads. It uses 16, then splits the rest into 3 equal bags. Write an equation with ___ and find the beads in each bag.	**___ = (40 - 16) / 3; 8 beads per bag**
3	Five teams earn 9 points each, then lose 12 points in all. Write an equation with ___ and find their total score.	**___ = 5 × 9 - 12; 33 points**
4	Mia has 18 cards and gets 27 more. She makes 5 equal piles. Write an equation with ___ and find the cards in each pile.	**___ = (18 + 27) / 5; 9 cards per pile**

PART 2 · APPLY IT

1. **___ = 5 × 19 - 21; 74 tickets remain. About 5 × 20 - 20 = 80, which is close to 74.** Multiply to get 95 tickets, then subtract 21. Rounding 19 to 20 and 21 to 20 gives an estimate of 80.
2. **___ = (42 + 18) / 5; 12 stickers per friend** Add to get 60 stickers, then divide by 5.

CHALLENGE

3 × 18 - ___ = 25; 29 tickets were sold. About 3 × 20 - 30 = 30, which is close to 29.

Accept equivalent equations with ___ for the unknown. Estimates may differ if they reasonably support the exact answer.