LESSON MAKER PRO

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."

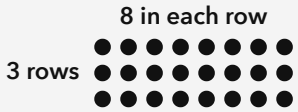
NAME _____ DATE _____

WHAT A PRODUCT MEANS

On this sheet, read a × b as a groups with b objects in each group. The factors name the groups and group size; the product is the total. Reversing the factors gives the same total but changes the described grouping.

WORKED EXAMPLE

Interpret 3 x 8.



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

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

PRACTICE 6 problems

1 Complete the sentence: 2 x 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 Using this sheet's groups-first convention, which story describes 5 × 9? A. 9 boxes with 5 crayons each B. 5 boxes with 9 crayons each.

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 x 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. Draw 11 equal groups, then write an expression and find the total.

CHALLENGE One step up

A game has 6 prize bags with 7 cards in each. Using the groups-first convention, explain how 6 × 7 matches. Would 7 × 6 give the same total? Explain both answers.

WORK SPACE AND ANSWER

ANSWER KEY

Groups Tell Stories

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PART 1 · PRACTICE

#	PROBLEM	ANSWER
1	Complete the sentence: 2 x 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 x 4 = 24 marbles**
3	Using this sheet's groups-first convention, which story describes 5 × 9? A. 9 boxes with 5 crayons each B. 5 boxes with 9 crayons each.	**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 x 2**
5	Complete the sentence: 7 x 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 x 5 = 45 stickers**

PART 2 · APPLY IT

1. **48 players** There are 4 equal groups of 12 players. Multiply 4 x 12 to get 48.
2. **11 groups of 2 books; 11 × 2 = 22 books.** There are 11 groups of 2 comic books. Multiply 11 x 2 to get 22.

CHALLENGE

6 names the bags and 7 the cards in each bag. Both 6 × 7 and 7 × 6 equal 42; changing factor order does not change the total.

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. In the drawing, check 11 distinct equal groups of 2, not just 22 ungrouped marks. Accept reversed-factor computations when roles are explained; distinguish the stated reading convention from numerical correctness.