North Penn School District

Elementary Math Parent Letter

Grade 6

Unit 1 – Chapter 1: Whole Numbers and Decimals

Examples for each lesson:

Lesson 1.1

Divide Multi-Digit Numbers

When you divide multi-digit whole numbers, you can estimate to check if the quotient is reasonable.

Divide 399 ÷ 42.

Step 1 Estimate, using compatible numbers.

400 and 40 are compatible numbers because $400 \div 40 = 10$ 40 divides evenly into 400.

Step 2 Divide the original numbers.

9 r21 399 ÷ 42 = 9 r21 42)399

-378

Step 3 You can write the remainder as a fraction. Use the remainder for the numerator, and the divisor for the denominator. Simplify if possible.

 $\frac{21 \div 21}{42 \div 21} = \frac{1}{2}$

 $399 \div 42 = 9\frac{1}{2}$

Step 4 Compare the quotient with your estimate.

Since $9\frac{1}{2}$ is close to 10, the quotient is reasonable.

Lesson 1.2

Prime Factorization

A number written as the product of prime numbers is called the **prime** factorization of that number. To break a number down into its prime factors, divide it by prime numbers. The first eight prime numbers are listed below.

2, 3, 5, 7, 11, 13, 17, 19

You can use a factor tree to find the prime factorization of a number.

3 55

Divide the number by the least prime factor possible. Try 2, 3, 5, and so on.

Break 55 down because it is not a prime number.

The numbers at the bottom of the branches are all prime. You can use a ladder diagram to find the prime factorization of a number.

165 ends in 5, so it is divisible by 5. Divide 165 by 5.

Write the quotient below 165.

The sum of the digits in 33 is divisible by 3, so divide 33 by 3.

11 is prime. Divide 11 by itself.

The bottom number is 1 and all the numbers to the left are prime.

Write the number as a product of prime factors. The factors should be in order from least to greatest.

So, the prime factorization of 165 is 3 \times 5 \times 11.

Lesson 1.3

Least Common Multiple

The **least common multiple**, or **LCM**, is the least number that two or more numbers have in common in their list of nonzero multiples.

Find the LCM of 3 and 9.

List the first ten nonzero multiples of each number:

Multiples of 3: 3, 6, 9, 12, 15, 18, 21, 24, 27, 30

Multiples of 9: 9, 18, 27, 36, 45, 54, 63, 72, 81, 90

The first three nonzero multiples that 3 and 9 have in common are 9, 18, and 27.

So, the LCM of 3 and 9 is 9.

More information on this strategy is available on Animated Math Model #1.

Greatest Common Factor

A **common factor** is a number that is a factor of two or more numbers. The **greatest common factor**, or **GCF**, is the greatest factor that two or more numbers have in common.

Find the common factors of 9 and 27. Then find the GCF.

Step 1

List the factors of each number. Identify the common factors. Factors of 9: 1, 3, 9 Common factors of 9 and 27: Factors of 27: 1, 3, 9, 27 1, 3, 9

The greatest of the common factors is 9.

So, the GCF of 9 and 27 is 9.

You can use the GCF and the Distributive Property to express the sum of two numbers as a product.

Write 9 + 27 as a product.

Step 1 Step 2

Write each number as the product of Write an expression multiplying the GCF the GCF and another factor. Write an expression multiplying the GCF and the sum of the two factors from Step 1.

Step 2

 $9 = 9 \times 1$ $27 = 9 \times 3$ $9 \times (1 + 3)$

The product $9 \times (1 + 3)$ has the same value as 9 + 27.

So, $9 + 27 = 9 \times (1 + 3)$.

More information on this strategy is available on Animated Math Model #2.

Problem Solving • Apply the Greatest Common Factor

Use the Distributive Property and a diagram to solve.

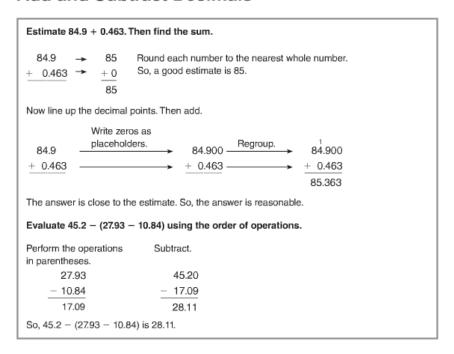
Bethany is packing cookies for her drama club's bake sale. She has 28 oatmeal cookies and 36 peanut butter cookies to pack. Each bag will contain only one kind of cookie, and every bag will have the same number of cookies. What is the greatest number of cookies she can pack in each bag? How many bags of each kind will there be?

Read the Problem	Solve the Problem
What do I need to find?	Step 1 Find the GCF of 28 and 36. Use prime factorization.
I need to find the number of	$28 = 2 \times 2 \times 7$ $36 = 2 \times 2 \times 3 \times 3$
cookies for each and the number of	Multiply common prime factors: 2 × 2 =
bags for	GCF:
What information do I need to use? I need to use the number of	Step 2 Write 28 as a product 28 = 4 × of the GCF and another factor.
and the number of	Write 36 as a product of the $36 = 4 \times \underline{\hspace{1cm}}$ GCF and another factor.
How will I use the information? First, I can find the	Step 3 Use the Distributive 28 + 36 = Property to write 28 + 36 as a product. 4 × (+)
Then I can draw a diagram showing the	Step 4 Use the product to draw a diagram of the bags of cookies. Write O for each oatmeal cookie and P for each peanut butter cookie.
	P P P P P P P P P P P P P P P P P P P
So, each bag will have cookies. There will be bags of	
oatmeal cookies and bags of peanut	butter cookies.

More information on this strategy is available on Animated Math Model #2.

Lesson 1.6

Add and Subtract Decimals

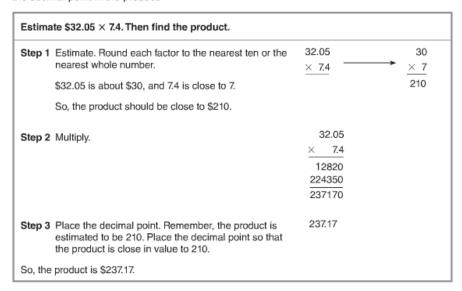


More information on this strategy is available on Animated Math Model #3.

Lesson 1.7

Multiply Decimals

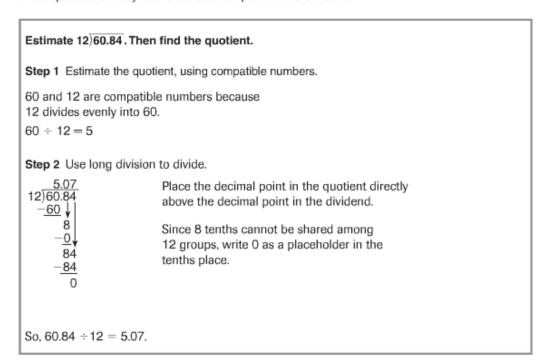
When multiplying decimals, you can estimate to help you place the decimal point in the product.



More information on this strategy is available on Animated Math Model #4.

Divide Decimals by Whole Numbers

When you divide a decimal by a whole number, place the decimal point in the quotient directly above the decimal point in the dividend.



More information on this strategy is available on Animated Math Model #5.

Lesson 1.9

Divide with Decimals

When dividing a decimal by a decimal, rewrite the divisor as a whole number. To keep an equivalent problem, move the decimal point in the dividend the same direction and number of places.

Rewrite the problem so that the divisor is a whole number.

 $300.7 \div 1.24$ 300.7 is the dividend and 1.24 is the divisor.

Change the Divisor

Multiply 1.24 by 100 because 1.24 has two

 $1.24 \times 100 = 124$ decimal places.

Change the DividendTo keep an equivalent problem, multiply $300.7 \times 100 = 30,070$ the dividend by the same number, 100.

So, $300.7 \div 1.24$ is the same problem as $30,070 \div 124$.

Find the quotient.

0.55)24.2

Divisor

 Step 1
 Step 2

 Rewrite the problem so that the divisor is a
 Divide.

whole number.

 $0.55 \times 100 = 55$

Dividend 55)2424.2 × 100 = 2,420

220 -220 0

So, $24.2 \div 0.55 = 44$.

More information on this strategy is available on Animated Math Model #6.

Vocabulary

Common factor – a number that is a factor of two or more numbers

Greatest common factor (GCF) – the greatest factor that two or more numbers have in common

Least common multiple (LCM) – the least number that is a common multiple of two or more numbers

Prime factorization – a number written as the product of all its prime factors

Compatible numbers – numbers that are easy to compute with mentally

Decimal – a number with one or more digits to the right of the decimal point

Dividend – the number that is to be divided in a division problem

Divisor – the number that divides the dividend

Prime number – a number that has exactly two factors, one and itself

Quotient – the number, not including the remainder, that results from dividing