Two-step multiplication word problems

Mixed two-step review

Name _____ Date _____

Show both steps. Use n for the unknown and include the unit in your answer.

1. There are 3 activity rooms. Each room has 4 tables and each table has 3 chairs. How many chairs are in the rooms altogether?

First amount and equation _____

Equation for n and answer with unit _____

Estimate or check _____

2. Each of 3 shelves starts with 7 books. A helper removes 2 books from every shelf. How many books remain on those shelves?

First amount and equation _____

Equation for n and answer with unit _____

Estimate or check _____

3. A baker puts 5 rolls on each of 5 plates. Guests eat 7 rolls altogether. How many rolls remain?

First amount and equation _____

Equation for n and answer with unit _____

Estimate or check _____

4. A club has 6 trays with 7 plants per tray. It shares all the plants equally among 3 teams. How many plants does each team get?

First amount and equation _____

Equation for n and answer with unit _____

Estimate or check _____

Two-step word problems · Worked key

Mixed two-step review

Read the first quantity with its unit. Other correct equations are welcome.

1. Total tables

3 × 4 = 12 tables.

12 × 3 = 36 chairs. n = (3 × 4) × 3.

Check: using 10 and 15 for the first amount gives 30 and 45.
The exact answer, 36, falls between those bounds.

Another route: 4 × 3 = 12 chairs per room; 12 × 3 = 36.

Open guided practice for problem 1

2. Books left on one shelf

7 - 2 = 5 books per shelf.

5 × 3 = 15 books. n = (7 - 2) × 3.

Check: using 0 and 10 for the first amount gives 0 and 30.
The exact answer, 15, falls between those bounds.

Open guided practice for problem 2

3. Rolls before the guests eat

5 × 5 = 25 rolls.

25 - 7 = 18 rolls. n = (5 × 5) - 7.

Check: using 20 and 30 for the first amount gives 13 and 23.
The exact answer, 18, falls between those bounds.

Open guided practice for problem 3

4. Total plants

6 × 7 = 42 plants.

42 ÷ 3 = 14 plants per team. n = (6 × 7) ÷ 3.

Check: using 30 and 45 for the first amount gives 10 and 15.
The exact answer, 14, falls between those bounds.

Another route: 6 ÷ 3 = 2 trays per team; 2 × 7 = 14.

Open guided practice for problem 4