

School-Home Letter

Dear Family,

During the next few weeks, our math class will be learning how to model division, and use the division algorithm to divide up to three-digit dividends by 1-digit divisors. The class will learn different methods to divide, including using models, repeated subtraction, and the standard division algorithm. We will also learn to divide with remainders.

You can expect to see homework that provides practice modeling division and using the division algorithm.

Here is a sample of how your child will be taught to model division using the Distributive Property.

Vocabulary

Distributive Property The property that states that dividing a sum by a number is the same as dividing each addend by the number and then adding the quotients

multiple A number that is the product of a given number and a counting number

remainder The amount left over when a number cannot be divided evenly

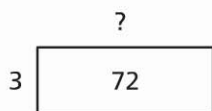
MODEL Use the Distributive Property to Divide

This is how we will divide using the Distributive Property.

Find $72 \div 3$.

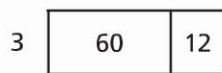
STEP 1

Draw a rectangle to model $72 \div 3$.



STEP 2

Think of 72 as $60 + 12$. Break apart the model into two rectangles to show $(60 + 12) \div 3$.



STEP 3

Each rectangle models a division.

$$\begin{aligned}
 72 \div 3 &= (60 \div 3) + (12 \div 3) \\
 &= 20 + 4 \\
 &= 24 \\
 \text{So, } 72 \div 3 &= 24.
 \end{aligned}$$

Tips

Whenever possible, try to use division facts and multiples of ten when breaking your rectangle into smaller rectangles. In the problem at the left, $60 \div 3$ is easy to find mentally.