

School-Home Letter

Dear Family,

During the next few weeks, our math class will be learning about dividing three- and four-digit whole numbers. We will also learn how to interpret remainders.

You can expect to see homework that provides practice with division of three- and four-digit dividends by one- and two-digit divisors.

Here is a sample of how your child will be taught to divide a three-digit number by a one-digit divisor.

Vocabulary

compatible numbers Numbers that are easy to compute with mentally

dividend The number that is to be divided in a division problem

divisor The number that divides the dividend

quotient The number, not including the remainder, that results from dividing

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



MODEL Divide Three-Digit Numbers

This is how we will divide three-digit numbers.

Solve. $268 \div 5$

STEP 1

Estimate to place the first digit in the quotient.

$$250 \div 5 = 50$$

So, place the first digit in the tens place.

$$\begin{array}{r} 5 \\ 5 \overline{)268} \end{array}$$

STEP 2

Divide the tens.

$$\begin{array}{r} 5 \\ 5 \overline{)268} \\ \underline{-25} \\ 18 \end{array}$$

STEP 3

Divide the ones.

$$\begin{array}{r} 53 \text{ r}3 \\ 5 \overline{)268} \\ \underline{-25} \\ 18 \\ \underline{-15} \\ 3 \end{array}$$

Tips

Identifying Patterns in Division

When estimating to place the first digit, it is important to recognize patterns with multiples of 10, 100, and 1,000. Complete the division with basic facts, then attach the same number of zeros to the dividend and the quotient.

$$36 \div 4 = 9$$

$$\text{so, } 36,000 \div 4 = 9,000.$$

Activity

Plan a vacation for the summer. Research the distance to the destination from your home. You can spend no more than one week traveling to the destination, and you must travel the same number of miles each day. Decide how many days you will spend traveling. Then find how many miles you need to travel each day.