


Multiplication Story Problems


Solve Using Pictures and Arrays

A dark blue diagonal gradient bar that starts from the bottom left corner and extends towards the top right corner, covering the lower half of the page.

Step 1: What do you understand from reading the story problem?




Step 2: What could you do to find the total number?



Step 3: What is the answer?



Step 4: How do you know your answer makes sense?



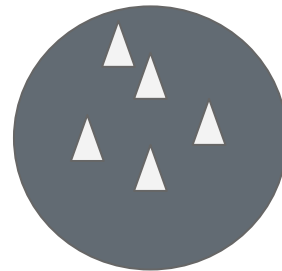
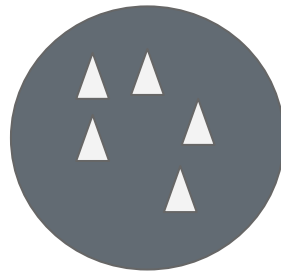
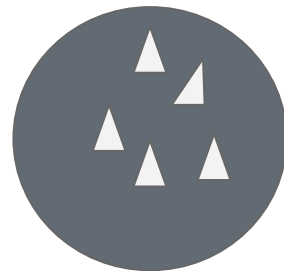
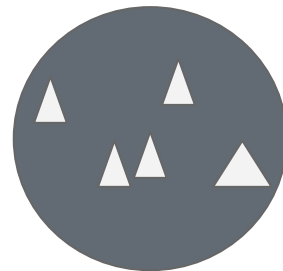
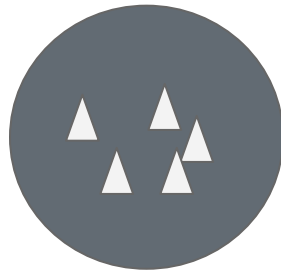
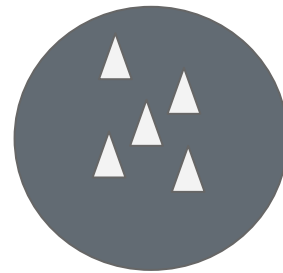
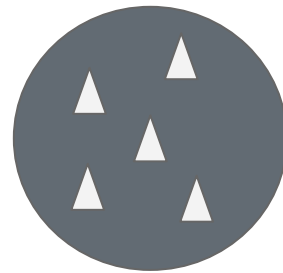
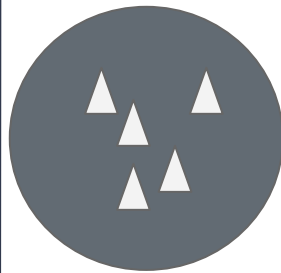
Problem 1:

Mark buys 8 packages of giant balloons. There are 5 balloons in each package. How many balloons will Mark have?

Problem 1 Answer:

$$8 \times 5 = ?$$

$$8 \times 5 = 40$$



Problem 2:

Renee buys 3 packages of Chocolate Scented Pens. There are 6 pens in a package. Can she give one pen to each of the 20 children in her class?

Problem 2 Answer:

$$3 \times 6 = ?$$

$$3 \times 6 = 18$$

$$20 - 18 = 2$$

Renee can't give one pen to each child because she has only 18 pens.

Problem 3:

Use an Array to Solve the Following Problem:

There are 24 Trombone players in a big parade. Use counters/pictures to show the trombone players in equal rows. Write a number model

Problem 3 Answers

$$3 \times 8 = 24$$

$$8 \times 3 = 24$$

$$4 \times 6 = 24$$

$$6 \times 4 = 24$$

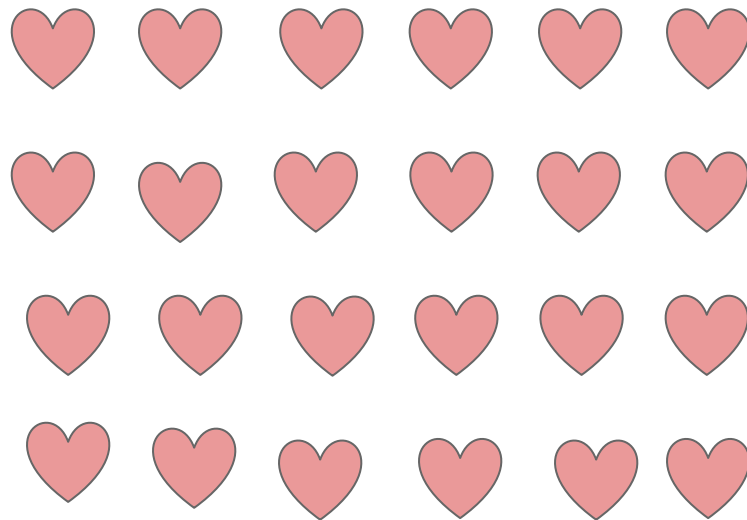
$$2 \times 12 = 24$$

$$12 \times 2 = 24$$

$$1 \times 24 = 24$$

$$24 \times 1 = 24$$

Here is one example of an array you can draw:



Problem 4

Use an array to solve the following problem:

There are 5 rows of chairs and 3 chairs in each row.

How many chairs are there in all?

Problem 4 Answer

$$5 \times 3 = 15$$



I challenge you to create 5 of your own problems. Show the picture or array that you use to solve the problem along with a number model.