Answers and talk notes

Fraction Division Problem Solving

What your student is learning

Tonight we solve real-world word problems with fraction division. We read the story, write an equation, solve it, and check that the answer makes sense.

Answers

Ask your student to explain before you look.

1. **B.** 4/5. The 4/5 liter is the whole amount being split, so 4/5 is the dividend.
2. **C.** 3/4 ÷ 1/8. The 3/4 pound is split into servings of 1/8 pound, so 3/4 ÷ 1/8.
3. **D.** 6. 3/4 × 8/1 = 24/4 = 6.
4. **A.** 3 1/2. 7/8 × 4/1 = 28/8 = 3 1/2.
5. **B.** 4 × 1/8 = 1/2. Multiply the answer by the divisor to get back to the total: 4 × 1/8 = 1/2.
6. **C.** 4. 3/4 ÷ 3/16 = 3/4 × 16/3 = 48/12 = 4 glasses.

Talk about it

Which amount is the total being split, the pitcher or one cup?

Home mission

Pick a big cup and a small scoop. Say out loud, "The total is the big cup, and one group is the scoop." Guess how many scoops fill the cup. Then scoop and count. Which came first in your division?

When they are stuck, ask

- Which number is the total being split up? That one goes first.
- Does the story ask how many groups fit? Then we divide.
- Let's check: if we multiply the answer by the piece size, do we get the total back?

Try not to say

- Just put the smaller number first.
- If it says 'each,' you always multiply.
- The answer must be smaller than the total because we are dividing.