# From Equal Groups to Proportional Reasoning Multiplicative Comparison as Key Structure

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# Ratios & Proportional Relationships

### Grade 6 Overview

(1) Connecting ratio and rate to whole number multiplication and division...

By viewing equivalent ratios and rates as deriving from, and extending, pairs of rows (or columns) in the multiplication table, and by analyzing simple drawings that indicate the relative size of quantities, students connect their understanding of multiplication and division with ratios and rates. Thus students expand the scope of problems for which they can use multiplication and division to solve problems, and they connect ratios and fractions.

# Multiplication/Division

- Multiplication and division in equal group situations (3.0A.A.1 & 3.0A.A.2)
- Multiplication in array/area situations (3.MD.C)
- Multiplication and division in comparison situation (4.0A.A.1 & 4.0A.A.2)
- Multiplication as scaling (5.NF.B.5)
- Division as?
  - 5.NF.B.7.a: Interpret division of a unit fraction by a nonzero whole number, and compute such quotients.
  - 5.NF.B.7.b: Interpret division of a whole number by a unit fraction, and compute such quotients.

	Unknown Product	Group Size Unknown ("How many in each group?" Division)	Number of Groups Unknown ("How many groups?" Division)
	3 × 6 = ?	$3 \times ? = 18$ , and $18 \div 3 = ?$	? × 6 = 18, and 18 ÷ 6 = ?
W.	There are 3 bags with 6 plums in each bag. How many plums are there in all?	If 18 plums are shared equally into 3 bags, then how many plums will be in each bag?	If 18 plums are to be packed 6 to a bag, then how many bags are needed?
Equal Groups	Measurement example. You need 3 lengths of string, each 6 inches long. How much string will you need altogether?	Measurement example. You have 18 inches of string, which you will cut into 3 equal pieces. How long will each piece of string be?	Measurement example. You have 18 inches of string, which you will cut into pieces that are 6 inches long. How many pieces of string will you have?
Arrays,⁴ Area⁵	There are 3 rows of apples with 6 apples in each row. How many apples are there?	If 18 apples are arranged into 3 equal rows, how many apples will be in each row?	If 18 apples are arranged into equal rows of 6 apples, how many rows will there be?
	Area example. What is the area of a 3 cm by 6 cm rectangle?	Area example. A rectangle has area 18 square centimeters. If one side is 3 cm long, how long is a side next to it?	Area example. A rectangle has area 18 square centimeters. If one side is 6 cm long, how long is a side next to it?
	A blue hat costs \$6. A red hat costs 3 times as much as the blue hat. How much does the red hat cost?	A red hat costs \$18 and that is 3 times as much as a blue hat costs. How much does a blue hat cost?	A red hat costs \$18 and a blue hat costs \$6. How many times as much does the red hat cost as the blue hat?
Compare	Measurement example. A rubber band is 6 cm long. How long will the rubber band be when it is stretched to be 3 times as long?	Measurement example. A rubber band is stretched to be 18 cm long and that is 3 times as long as it was at first. How long was the rubber band at first?	Measurement example. A rubber band was 6 cm long at first. Now it is stretched to be 18 cm long. How many times as long is the rubber band now as it was at first?
General	a × b = ?	$a \times ? = p$ , and $p \div a = ?$	? × $b = p$ , and $p \div b = ?$

A blue hat costs \$6. A red hat costs 3 times as much as the blue hat. How much does the red hat cost?

Measurement example. A rubber band is 6 cm long. How long will the rubber band be when it is stretched to be 3 times as long?

A red hat costs \$18 and that is 3 times as much as a blue hat costs. How much does a blue hat cost?

Measurement example. A rubber band is stretched to be 18 cm long and that is 3 times as long as it was at first. How long was the rubber band at first?

A red hat costs \$18 and a blue hat costs \$6. How many times as much does the red hat cost as the blue hat?

Measurement example. A rubber band was 6 cm long at first. Now it is stretched to be 18 cm long. How many times as long is the rubber band now as it was at first?

- 4.OA.A.1 Interpret a multiplication equation as a comparison, e.g., interpret  $35 = 5 \times 7$  as a statement that 35 is 5 times as many as 7 and 7 times as many as 5. Represent verbal statements of multiplicative comparisons as multiplication equations.
- 4.OA.A.2 Multiply or divide to solve word problems involving multiplicative comparison, e.g., by using drawings and equations with a symbol for the unknown number to represent the problem, distinguishing multiplicative comparison from additive comparison.

A blue hat costs \$6. A red hat costs 3 times as much as the blue hat. How much does the red hat cost?

Measurement example. A rubber band is 6 cm long. How long will the rubber band be when it is stretched to be 3 times as long?

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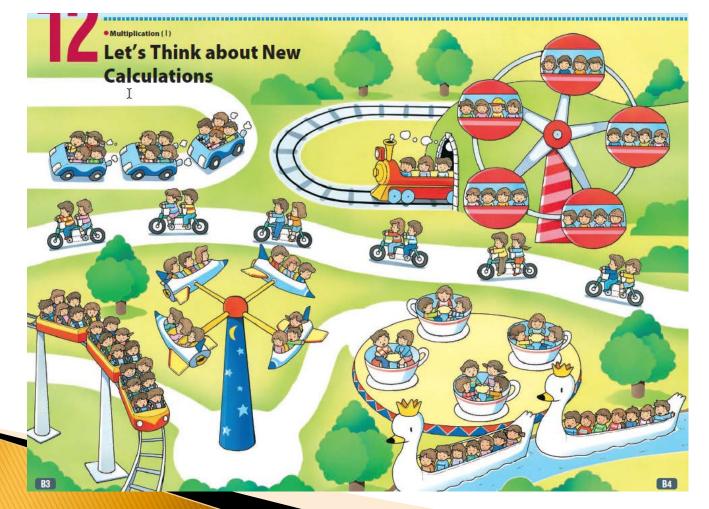
A red hat costs \$18 and a blue hat costs \$6. How many times as much does the red hat cost as the blue hat?

Measurement example. A rubber band was 6 cm long at first. Now it is stretched to be 18 cm long. How many times as long is the rubber band now as it was at first?

- 3.OA.A.1 Interpret whole-number quotients of whole numbers, e.g., interpret  $56 \div 8$  as the number of objects in each share when 56 objects are partitioned equally into 8 shares, or as a number of shares when 56 objects are partitioned into equal shares of 8 objects each.
- 4.OA.A.\* Interpret whole-number quotients of whole numbers, e.g., interpret 56 ÷ 8 as the base number to which 56 is compared, or as a number of times as much 56 is as 8.

# Multiplicative Comparison in Japanese curriculum

Grade 2: Introduction of multiplication

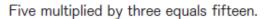


How many children are riding on the train altogether?



There are 5 children in each train car and there are 3 train cars. There are 15 children altogether. You can write this using the following math sentence.

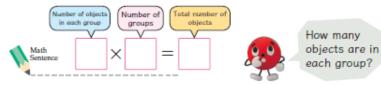
$$5 \times 3 = 15$$



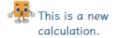




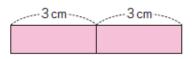
write a math sentence for the number of people riding on page 5. Write the math sentence just like we did above.



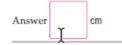
Calculations like  $5\times3$  and  $2\times$  6 are called **multiplication**.



What is the length of two 3cm strips of paper put together?







If a piece of tape is as long as two 3cm strips of paper put together, we can say the tape is **2 times** as long as the 3cm tape.

You can use the multiplication math sentence  $3\times2$  to find the length that is two times as long as 3cm.

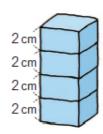


If a piece of tape is as long as three 3cm strips of paper put together, how many times as long is it as a 3cm strips of paper? How long is the tape?

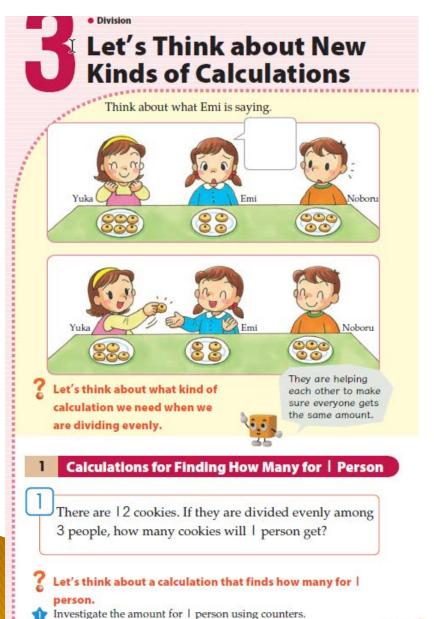


3 times or 4 times as much as an amount is the same as 3 or 4 sets of the amount put together. I time as much is the same as the given amount.

What is the height of the stack of boxes if it is 4 times as high as 2cm? Write a multiplication math sentence, and then find the answer.



### Grade 3: Introduction of division



Calculations for Finding the Number of People We Can Divide Something into

12 pastries just came out of the oven.





Let's think about what kind of calculation we need to use to find how many people we can divide something into.

There are 12 pastries. If we give 3 pastries to each person, how many people can share the pastries?



Use counters to investigate how many people can get pastries.

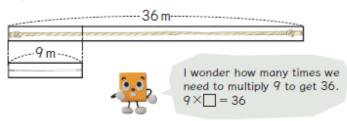
# Division as the operation to find how many times as much

- Calculations for Finding Times as Much
- The length of a tug of war rope is 36m. The length of a jump rope is 9m.

How many times as long is the tug of war rope as the jump rope?



- Let's think about what kind of calculation we need to use to find how many times as much.
- Look at the diagram below and think about it.



Answer

times

To find how many times as much, you can use division.

During the team jump rope competition, Chiemi's team jumped 2 l times and Takashi's team jumped 7 times.

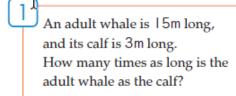
How many times as much did Chiemi's team jump as Takashi's team?





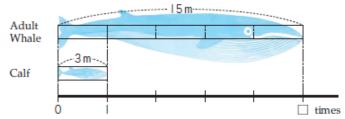
### Grade 4: Division

### 4 Calculation with Times as Much





1 Think about it using the diagram below.



Write a math sentence, and then find the answer.

Answer





5 times means that if we consider 3m as 1, 15m corresponds to 5.

If we say | piece is 3 m long, | 5 m is the same as 5 pieces together, isn't it?

Ayumi's class has pet hamsters. At the beginning of the school year, there were 4 hamsters, but now there are 24 of them. Answer the following questions:



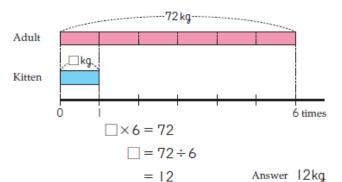
- ① How many times as many hamsters are there now as there were at the beginning of the school year?
- ② If we consider 4 hamsters as 1, what number will 24 hamsters correspond to?

An adult jaguar
weighs 6 times as
much as a jaguar
kitten.
If the adult jaguar
weighs 72kg, how
much does the kitten
weigh in kg?



- ? Let's think about how to calculate the amount for |.
- ↑ Write a multiplication sentence by considering the weight of the
  jaguar kitten as 

  kg.
- What calculation is necessary to find the number in the 
   ☐? Think about it using the diagram below.



A story-book costs 920 yen. The price of the story-book is 4 times as much as the price of a comic book. Write a multiplication sentence by considering the price of the comic book as 

yen.



Then, find the number that goes in to the  $\square$ .

## Grade 4 Application of multiplicative comparison

### Problems with times as much

We are going to buy 12 cups each of yogurt and pudding.

You can buy a pack of 3 cups Lof yogurt for 240 yen. How much will it cost to buy 12 cups of yogurt?



Ipack 240 yen

Explain the two students' thinking.



I thought about the price of each cup of yogurt.

$$240 \div 3 = 80$$

$$80 \times 12 = 960$$

Answer 960 yen



I thought about how many times | 2 is compared to 3.

$$12 \div 3 = 4$$

$$240 \times 4 = 960$$

Answer 960 yen



🏠 Pudding is also sold in packs of 3, and each pack costs 200 yen.

How much will it cost to buy 12 cups of pudding?



If we calculate the price of each cup of pudding....



Ipack 200 yen

- Calculate the cost of the following items.
  - ① The price of 5 pieces of caramel is 120 ven. How much will it cost to buy 15 pieces of caramel?
  - ② The price of 3 sticks of sweet dumpling is 100 yen. How much will it cost to buy 21 sticks of sweet dumpling?

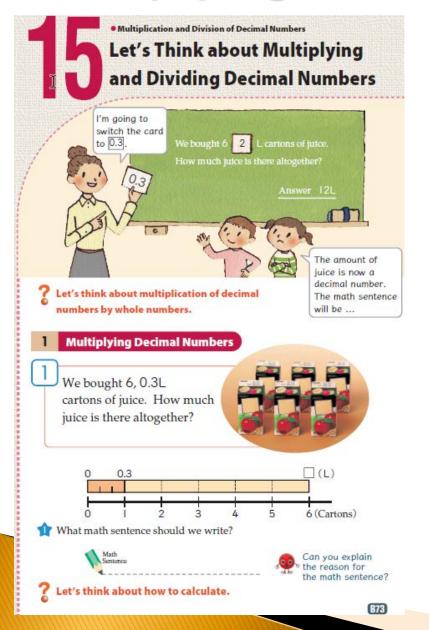




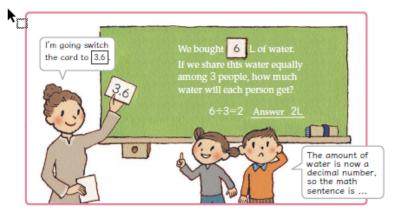
# Multiplication as scaling

When the multiplier (# of groups) become something other than whole numbers, we need to extend our interpretation of multiplication – "equal groups" is no longer sufficient.

# Multiplying and dividing decimals



**Dividing Decimal Numbers** 



Let's think about dividing decimal numbers by whole numbers.

We bought 3.6L of water. If we share this water equally among 3 people, how much water will each person get?





What math sentence should we write?



Can you explain the idea behind why you wrote this math sentence?

.et's think about how to calculate.





# Multiplying and dividing decimals

### 3 Times as Much and Decimal Numbers

Taichi started learning to ride a unicycle this week.

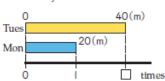
The table on the right shows the longest distance Taichi could ride his unicycle without his feet touching the ground on each day.

Compared to the distance on Monday, how many times as much is the distance for each of the other days of the week?

Taichi's Unicycle Record

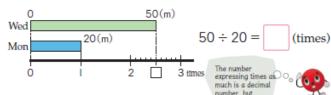
11000101		
	Distance (m)	
Mon	20	
Tues	40	
Wed	50	
Thurs	30	
$\sim\sim$	~~~~	

The distance on Tuesday is how many times as much as the distance on Monday?

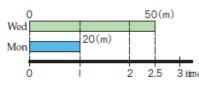


$$40 \div 20 =$$
 (times)

The distance on Wednesday is how many times as much as the distance on Monday?



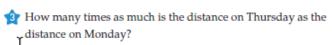
Let's think about what times as much means with a decimal.

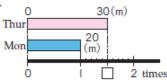


If we consider the distance on Monday as 1, the distance on Wednesday can be considered as 2.5.

**B89** 

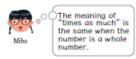
B90





We can use decimal numbers to express "times as much", such as 2.5 times as much or 1.5 times as much.

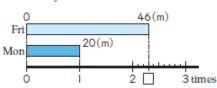
1.5 times means if we consider 20m as 1,30m will be considered as 1.5.

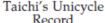




I.5 times as much as 20m is 30m. We can express this using a math sentence. 20×1.5=30.

Taichi's record on Friday was 46m. How many times as much is the distance on Friday as the distance on Monday.





record		
	Distance (m)	
Mon	20	
Fri	46	

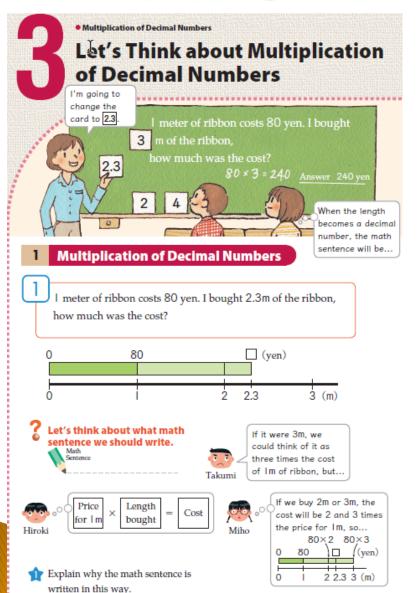
$$46 \div 20 =$$
 (times)

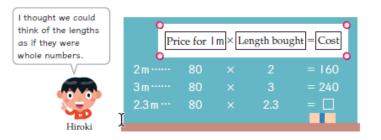
A dictionary costs 2800 yen. A storybook costs 800 yen. How many times as much does the dictionary cost as the storybook?

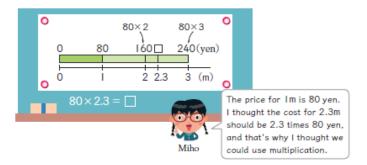




# Multiplying and dividing by decimals



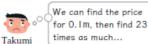




Even when the length of ribbon is a decimal number, we can use a multiplication sentence to find the total cost, just like we did when the lengths were whole numbers.

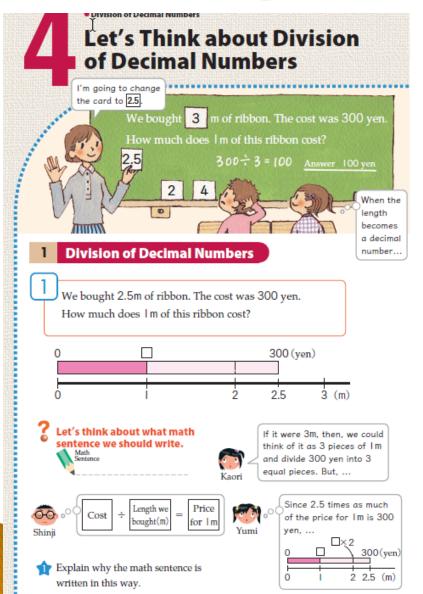


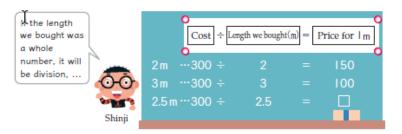
**?** Let's think about how to calculate.

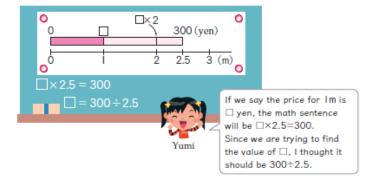




# Multiplying and dividing by decimals







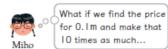
Even when the length of ribbon is a decimal number, we can use division to find the price for Im just like we did with whole numbers.

 $300 \div 2.5$ 



About how much will it be? Since 300÷2=150 and 300÷3=100....

### **?** Let's think about how to calculate.





What if we find the cost for 25m and divide that by 25...

# Possible sequence in the US

### Grade 5

Fractions as quotients of whole numbers divided by whole numbers

Introducing "Q times as much" idea with Q as a fraction (division to find the scale factor)

Multiplication by fraction as scaling

# A key CCSS standard for ratio/rate reasoning

5.NF.B.4.a Interpret the product  $(a/b) \times q$  as a parts of a partition of q into b equal parts; equivalently, as the result of a sequence of operations  $a \times (q \div b)$ .

# Examples with 5.NF.B.4.a

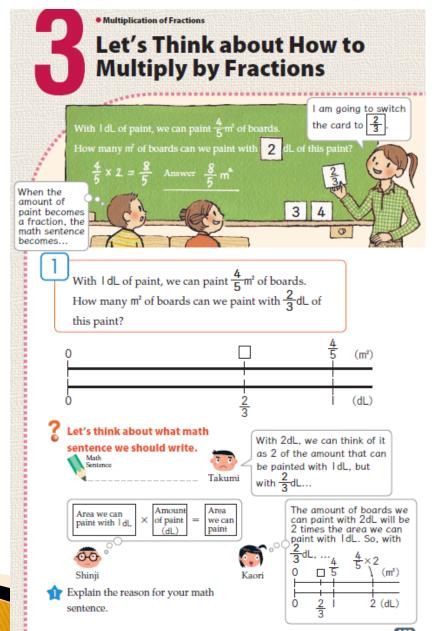
For example, use a visual fraction model to show  $(2/3) \times 4 = 8/3$ , and create a story context for this equation. Do the same with  $(2/3) \times (4/5) = 8/15$ . (In general,  $(a/b) \times (c/d) = ac/bd$ .)

## Examples with 5.NF.B.4.a

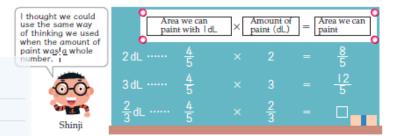
For example, use a visual fraction model to  $show \frac{2}{3} \times 4 = 2 \times (4 \div 3) = \frac{8}{3}$ , and create a story context for this equation. Do the same with

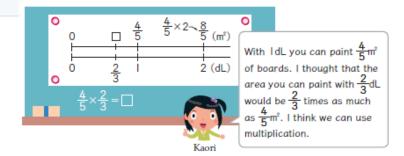
$$\frac{2}{3} \times \frac{4}{5} = 2 \times \left(\frac{4}{5} \div 3\right) = \frac{8}{15}. (In general, (a/b) \times (c/d) = ac/bd.)$$

# G6: Multiplication by fractions



# G6: Multiplication by fractions

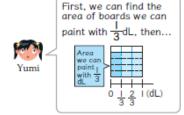


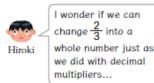


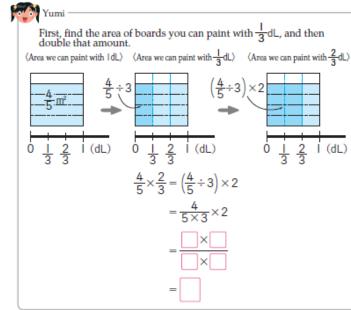
Even when the amount of paint used is a fraction, we can use multiplication to calculate the total area that can be painted, just like we did with whole numbers.

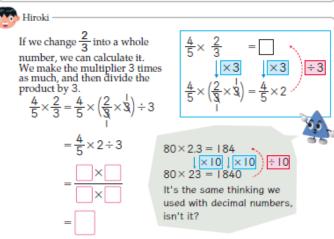
$$\frac{4}{5} \times \frac{2}{3}$$

### ? Let's think about how to calculate.





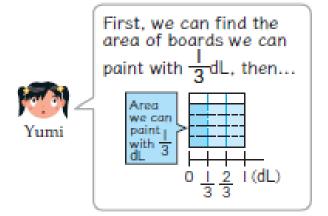


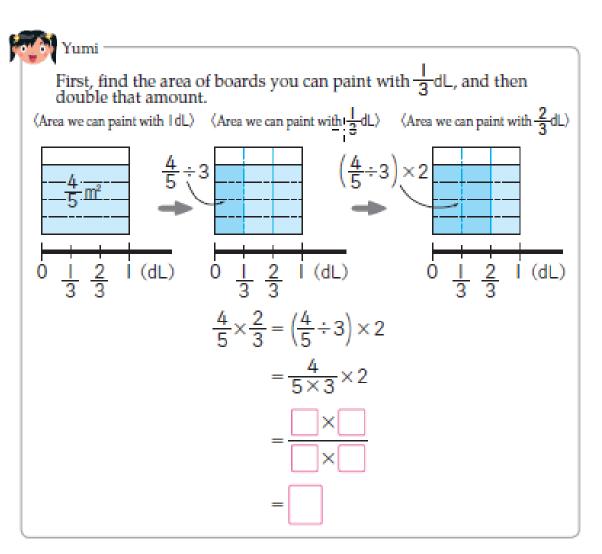


Compare the last part of the math sentences in these two students' ideas.

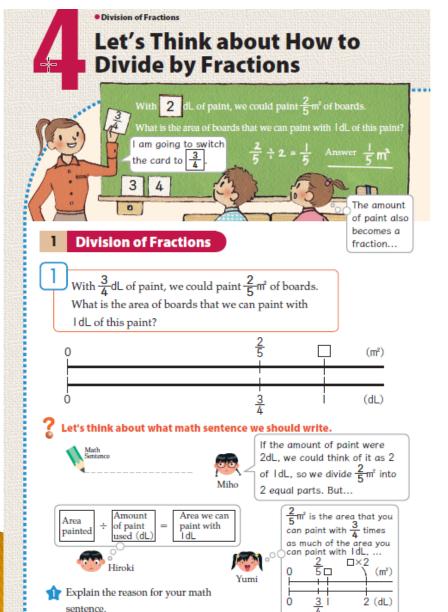
# G6: Multiplication by fractions

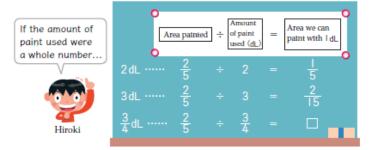
Let's think about how to calculate.

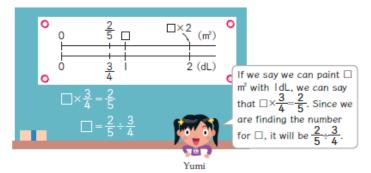




# G6: Division by fractions



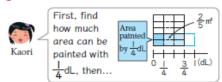


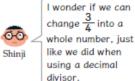


Even when the amount of paint used is a fraction, we can still use a division sentence to calculate the amount that can be painted with IdL, just like we did with whole numbers and decimal numbers.

$$\frac{2}{5} \cdot \frac{3}{4}$$





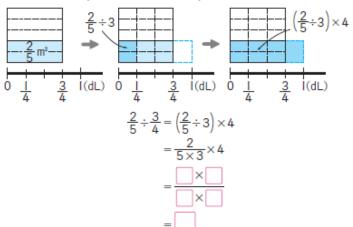


# G6: Division by fractions



! First, find how much area can be painted with  $\frac{1}{4}dL$ , and then find 4 times as much as that number.

 $\langle \text{Area painted by } \frac{3}{4} \text{dL} \rangle \quad \langle \text{Area painted by } \frac{1}{4} \text{dL} \rangle \quad \langle \text{Area painted by } 1 \text{dL} \rangle$ 

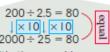




We can calculate if we can change  $\frac{3}{4}$  into a whole number...

$$\frac{\frac{2}{5} \div \frac{3}{4} = }{\downarrow \times 4} \downarrow \times 4 
\left(\frac{2}{5} \times 4\right) \div \left(\frac{3}{1} \times 1\right) = \frac{2}{5} \times 4 \div 3$$

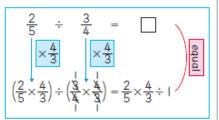
$$\frac{2}{5} \div \frac{3}{4} = \left(\frac{2}{5} \times 4\right) \div \left(\frac{3}{4} \times \frac{1}{4}\right)$$
$$= \left(\frac{2}{5} \times 4\right) \div 3$$
$$= \frac{2 \times 4}{5} \div 3$$



It's the same idea we used when we divided by a decimal number, isn't it?

### Yu

We can easily calculate if the divisor is 1. So, I multiplied both  $\frac{2}{5}$  and  $\frac{3}{4}$  by  $\frac{4}{3}$ , the reciprocal of  $\frac{3}{4}$  ...



$$\frac{2}{5} \div \frac{3}{4} = \left(\frac{2}{5} \times \frac{4}{3}\right) \div \left(\frac{3}{3} \times \frac{4}{3}\right)$$

$$= \left(\frac{2}{5} \times \frac{4}{3}\right) \div 1$$

$$= \frac{2}{5} \times \frac{4}{3}$$

$$= \frac{2}{5} \times \frac{4}{3}$$

$$= \frac{2}{5} \times \frac{4}{3}$$

$$= \frac{2}{5} \times \frac{4}{3}$$

She is using the same property as the one Shinji

used, isn't she?

Compare the last part of the math sentences of these three students.

$$\frac{2}{5} \div \frac{3}{4} = \frac{2 \times 4}{5 \times 3}$$

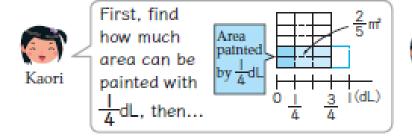
$$= \frac{8}{15}$$
Answer  $\frac{8}{15}$ m<sup>2</sup>

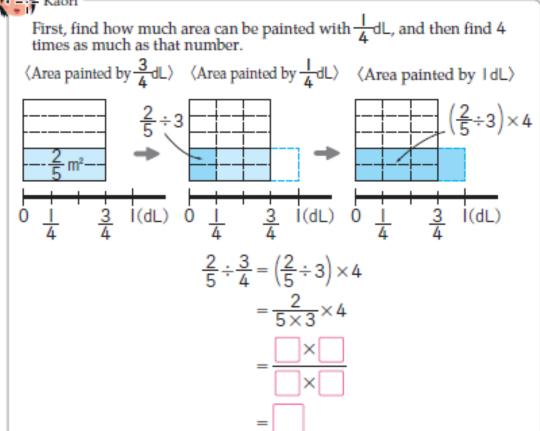
To divide by a fraction, we can multiply the dividend by the reciprocal of the divisor.

$$\frac{b}{a} \div \frac{d}{c} = \frac{b}{a} \times \frac{c}{d}$$
$$= \frac{b \times c}{a \times d}$$

# G6: Division by fractions

### ? Let's think about how to calculate.





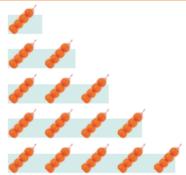
# **Concluding Thoughts**

Teaching of multiplication and division (whole numbers, decimal numbers, and fractions) in Grades 3 - 5 needs to be thought of as the foundation building for proportional reasoning in middle grades.

### Multiplication Facts of 4



Find multiplication facts for 4.



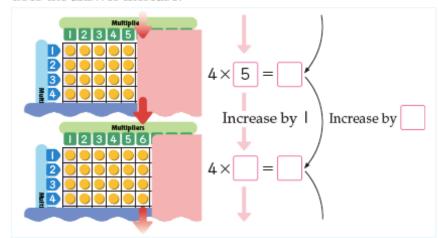
$$4 \times 2 =$$

$$4 \times 3 =$$

$$4 \times 4 =$$

$$4 \times 5 =$$

↑ When the multiplier of 4×5 increases by I, by how many does the answer increase?



2

Find the answers for  $4\times6$ ,  $4\times7$ ,  $4\times8$ , and  $4\times9$ .

$$4 \times 6 =$$

$$4 \times 7 =$$

$$4 \times 8 =$$

# **Concluding Thoughts**

- Teaching of multiplication and division (whole numbers, decimal numbers, and fractions) in Grades 3 - 5 needs to be thought of as the foundation building for proportional reasoning in middle grades.
- An important goal of teaching multiplication and division of fractions in Grades 5 and 6 is for students to develop an understanding that multiplication and division are special cases of proportional reasoning.