

Two-Step Problems and Patterns: math practice, Grade 3 – download the PDF

21 problems graded by difficulty (★ easy, ★★ medium, ★★★ hard). Try first, without looking at the solutions!

1 Parentheses matter

★ ★ ★

Calculate and compare: a) $5 + 3 \times 4$ b) $(5 + 3) \times 4$.

2 Stickers

★ ★ ★

Mia has 3 packs of 6 stickers. Her friend gives her 4 more stickers. How many stickers does Mia have?

3 Find the unknown

★ ★ ★

Find the unknown number: a) $n + 18 = 45$ b) $7 \times m = 56$.

4 Even or odd?

★ ★ ★

Sort these numbers into even and odd: 14, 27, 60, 83, 105, 148.

5 Addition table row



In the addition table, look at the row of 8: $8 + 1$, $8 + 2$, $8 + 3$, $8 + 4$. a) Write the four sums. b) What pattern do you see? c) Predict $8 + 5$.

6 Multiples of 5



Write the multiples 5×1 to 5×8 . Then tell whether 65 and 72 could be multiples of 5.

7 Quick estimate



Estimate $58 + 34$ by rounding each number to the nearest ten. Then find the exact sum.

8 Muffin trays



A baker makes 6 trays with 8 muffins on each tray. She sells 19 muffins. How many muffins are left?

9 Notebooks and a pen



Leo buys 4 notebooks at 3 dollars each and one pen for 2 dollars. Let t be the total cost. a) Write an equation for t . b) Find t . c) He pays with a 20-dollar bill. How much change does he get?

10 Two unknowns



Solve: a) $n \times 6 = 42$ b) $n - 15 = 29$.

11 Order of operations



Calculate: a) $36 \div 6 + 4 \times 2$ b) $20 - 2 \times 7$ c) $36 \div (2 + 4)$ d) $(20 - 2) \times 7$.

12 Is it reasonable?



Sam says that $49 + 38 = 77$. Use an estimate to decide whether his answer is reasonable. Then find the correct sum.

13 Facts from facts



You know $6 \times 7 = 42$. a) Use it to give 7×6 . b) Use it to find 6×8 . c) Show that $6 \times 7 = 6 \times 5 + 6 \times 2$.

14 Even or odd sums



Without adding, tell whether each sum is even or odd. Then check by adding. a) $24 + 36$ b) $17 + 25$ c) $18 + 31$ d) $9 + 9 + 9$.

15 Reading marathon



Ava reads 8 pages each day for 5 days, and then 13 more pages on the weekend. Let p be the number of pages she read. a) Write an equation and find p . b) Her book has 90 pages. How many pages are left to read?

16 Two-step equations



Find the unknown by working backward: a) $3 \times n + 5 = 29$ b) $50 - 4 \times n = 26$.

17 Pencil boxes



A school buys 4 boxes with 28 pencils in each box. Jo says there are 212 pencils. a) Estimate to decide whether 212 is reasonable. b) Find the exact number in two steps.

18 Addition table hunt



In the addition table from 1 to 6 (rows 1 to 6, columns 1 to 6), count how many cells contain: a) the sum 7 b) the sum 12 c) the sum 11 d) the sum 6. Explain the pattern with the diagonals.

19 Nines trick



a) Use the pattern of the nines (the tens digit is one less than the factor, and the digits add up to 9) to find 9×6 and 9×7 . b) Check 9×8 with the pattern and with a different method. c) Use doubling to find 4×7 .

20 Even and odd reasoning



a) Is 3×7 even or odd? What about 4×9 , 5×6 and 7×7 ? b) True or false: the sum of three odd numbers is even. Test with 11, 13 and 15. c) There are 25 students. Can they all work in pairs?

21 Family tickets



A museum charges 5 dollars for a child and 8 dollars for an adult. A family has 3 children and 2 adults. Let T be the total price. a) Write an equation for T . b) Find T . c) The family pays with two 20-dollar bills. How much change do they get?



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