



Division First Level

Children are introduced to division in the First Level. Initially they will practise grouping objects as well as sharing objects equally through practical activities in class. The children develop the vocabulary used in division, for example, grouped in 2's, 3's etc, shared equally, divide, share the tens, share the units, remainders. A good knowledge of table facts will help them to divide mentally. Once children are familiar with the idea of division they are introduced to a written form and learn to apply division to solve word problems.

Examples of written calculations involving grouping

EXAMPLE 1 WITHOUT REMAINDERS

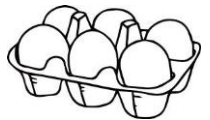
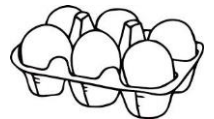
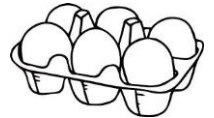
I have 18 eggs. I share them between 3 boxes. How many eggs are in each box?
Drawing the array of the eggs in the eggbox can help.

Group the eggs into groups of 3

18 eggs grouped in 3's gives 6 groups

Divide can be used to mean 'grouped in'

We can say – 18 divided by 3 equals 6 and we can write $18 \div 3 = 6$



EXAMPLE 2 WITH REMAINDERS

16 children are to be placed in groups of 5 to play football.

Group the 16 children in 5's

Divide can be used to mean 'grouped in'

We can say – 16 divided by 5 equals 3 with 1 left over and we can write

$16 \div 5 = 3 \text{ r}1$ (3 remainder 1)

Examples of written calculations involving sharing equally

EXAMPLE 1 WITHOUT REMAINDERS

If 20 cakes are shared equally among 4 plates, how many would be on each tray?

Write: $20 \div 4 =$ Ask: 4 times what makes 20? $4 \times 5 = 20$ so $20 \div 4 = 5$

Your child should start to link division to table facts.

EXAMPLE 2 WITH REMAINDERS

If 35 pencils are shared equally among 6 tubs, how many would be in each tub?

Write: $35 \div 6 =$

Ask: Is 35 a fact in the 6 times table? No

6 times what is just less than 35?

$6 \times 5 = 30$

So $35 \div 6 = 5$ remainder 5

Write: $35 \div 6 = 5 \text{ r}5$

**EXAMPLE 3 WITH REMAINDERS**

Children will later be introduced to division in the following format:

$$4 \overline{) 31}$$

Read this as 31 divided by 4

Ask 4 times what is 31?

Is 31 a fact in the 4 times table? No

4 times what is just less than 31?

$$4 \times 7 = 28$$

$$4 \overline{) 31} \begin{array}{l} 7 \text{ r } 3 \\ 31 \end{array}$$

Write 7 directly above the 1 in the units column. Now say $4 \times 7 = 28$ so 28 and how many more make $31 = 3$. There are 3 left over (remainder 3)
Write this as r (remainder) 3

Division by 10, 100 and 1000**FIRST LEVEL:**

If your child is learning about:

Dividing by 10

To divide whole numbers by 10 we move each digit one place to the right. The units digit becomes a remainder.

Examples

$$350 \div 10$$

$$\begin{array}{r} \text{H T U} \\ 3 \ 5 \ 0 \div 10 \\ = \ 3 \ 5 \end{array}$$

$$478 \div 10$$

$$\begin{array}{r} \text{H T U} \\ 4 \ 7 \ 8 \div 10 \\ = \ 4 \ 7 \text{ r } 8 \end{array}$$

There are no reminders when the units digit is a zero

If your child is learning about:

Dividing by 100

To divide whole numbers by 100 we move each digit two places to the right.

Example

$$3500 \div 100$$

$$\begin{array}{r} \text{Th H T U} \\ 3 \ 5 \ 0 \ 0 \div 100 \\ = \ 3 \ 5 \end{array}$$