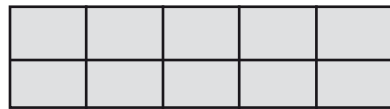


Using Arrays for Multiplication

Cross-Curricular Focus: Mathematics



Is it hard to multiply? Do you forget the facts? Maybe you need to see the facts to remember them. An **array** is a math tool that helps you see the facts. You need any small **objects**, like beans or buttons. Put the objects into **equal** rows. Every row must have the same number of objects in it. If the rows are not even, it's not an array. Picture an array in your head to remember the facts when you multiply.



Math has rules to follow. One rule is about the way you say the numbers in a multiplication array. The number of groups, or rows, always comes first. The number of things in each group, or row, comes second. Math has to have common meanings. This is so people all around the world can talk about math. They would agree that this array shows 2×5 . It has two equal rows of five. Can you see it?

Name: _____

Answer the following questions based on the reading passage. Don't forget to go back to the passage whenever necessary to find or confirm your answers.

1) What is an array?

2) If you are making an array, is it okay to have one row of six and one row of seven?

3) Why do the number of groups or rows have to come first?

4) If you want to make an array to show 5×4 , how many rows will you need?

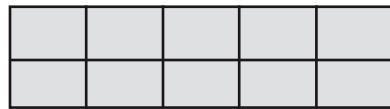
5) Draw an array for 3×2

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Key

Name: _____

Answer the following questions based on the reading passage. Don't forget to go back to the passage whenever necessary to find or confirm your answers.

Actual answers may vary.

1) What is an array?

a tool to help us see the math facts

2) If you are making an array, is it okay to have one row of six and one row of seven?

No

3) Why do the number of groups or rows have to come first?

so people around the world can talk about math

4) If you want to make an array to show 5×4 , how many rows will you need?

5

5) Draw an array for 3×2

