FRACTION WORD PROBLEMS: DO I MULTIPLY OR DIVIDE?

When to Multiply:

- Do you have fractional groups or amounts and is the problem asking for the total?
- Are you taking part of a whole?
- Are you taking part of a part?
- Are you trying to determine the total amount you need for X people, containers, recipes, etc.?

When to Divide:

- Are you dividing a given amount into equal groups?
- Are you taking an amount and sorting it, breaking it up, or cutting it into equal parts?
- Are you eating, drinking, or using an equal amount of a total each day and looking for how much you eat, drink, or use each day?

You can check your answer by asking yourself:

- Is my answer reasonable?
- Does it make sense?
- Is the answer way too small or way too big?

Jackson's mother buys 4 packs of hamburger meat. Each pack contains 4/6 of a pound of meat. How much total meat did she buy?	Mrs. Diego has 3 cups of sugar. She needs to divide the sugar equally into containers of 1/3 of a cup of sugar. How many containers will Mrs. Diego be able to fill?
Mr. Simpson feeds his dog	After a party, 1/3 of a pizza
½ of a cup of dog food each day.	remains. Rachel eats 1/2 of the
How long will 4 cups of dog food	remaining pizza. What fraction of a
last?	pizza does she eat?
Anu has 9 problems to solve for his	A fudge company makes 4 pounds
math homework. He has solved 2/3	of fudge. A worker separates the
of the problems already. How	fudge into packages of ¼ of a
many of his problems has he	pound of fudge each. How many
solved?	packages does he make?
A chef has ½ of a pound of flour to	Keisha is making potato casserole
divide equally into two containers.	for a dinner party. She needs ½ of a
How much flour will be in each	potato per guest. How many
container?	potatoes will she need for 9 guests?
Meandre has 8 pints of milk. If he	Tyreick wants to fill six containers
drinks ¼ of a pint of milk each day,	with ¾ of a cup of lemonade. How
how long will the 8 pints of milk last	much lemonade will he need to fill
him?	the six containers?

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FRACTION WORD PROBLEMS

Name: Answer Key	Date:
MULTIPLICATION	DIVISION
Jackson's mother buys 4 packs of	A chef has ½ of a pound of flour to
hamburger meat. Each pack	divide equally into two containers.
contains 4/6 of a pound of meat.	How much flour will be in each
How much total meat did she buy?	container?
Anu has 9 problems to solve for his	A fudge company makes 4 pounds
math homework. He has solved 2/3	of fudge. A worker separates the
of the problems already. How	fudge into packages of ¼ of a
many of his problems has he	pound of fudge each. How many
solved?	packages does he make?
After a party, 1/3 of a pizza remains. Rachel eats 1/2 of the remaining pizza. What fraction of a pizza does she eat?	Mrs. Diego has 3 cups of sugar. She needs to divide the sugar equally into containers of 1/3 of a cup of sugar. How many containers will Mrs. Diego be able to fill?
Keisha is making potato casserole	Mr. Simpson feeds his dog
for a dinner party. She needs ½ of a	½ of a cup of dog food each day.
potato per guest. How many	How long will 4 cups of dog food
potatoes will she need for 9 guests?	last?
Tyreick wants to fill six containers	Meandre has 8 pints of milk. If he
with ¾ of a cup of lemonade. How	drinks ¼ of a pint of milk each day,
much lemonade will he need to fill	how long will the 8 pints of milk last
the six containers?	him?

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