

Multiplication and Division: Meanings and Facts

Dear Family,

Your child is reviewing multiplication and division and exploring the ways they are related. This relationship can be shown with fact families, such as these:

$$4 \times 7 = 28$$

$$7 \times 4 = 28$$

$$28 \div 7 = 4$$

$$28 \div 4 = 7$$

A fact family is made up of multiplication and division facts that include all the same numbers. You can help your child develop her or his understanding of fact families by practicing at home. Here are two activities you can try.

Math Challenge

Materials paper and pencil

Take turns making up fact-family puzzles for each other. For example, write $3 \square 4 = 12$. Ask your child to write the symbol (\div or \times) in the blank to make this a true sentence. Then ask her or him to write the other three sentences in this fact family ($4 \times 3 = 12$, $12 \div 3 = 4$, $12 \div 4 = 3$).

Turn It Around

Step 1 Player 1 says a division problem, for example: $54 \div 6$.

Step 2 Player 2 repeats the problem and says the quotient: $54 \div 6 = 9$, and then says a related multiplication problem, for example: $9 \times 6 = 54$.

Step 3 Player 2 then starts by saying a multiplication problem that player 1 solves and turns around into a related division problem.