



ADULT GUIDE · KEEP THIS PAGE

Equal groups and arrays

England national curriculum · Year 1 · supported problem solving

What this pack helps with

Build multiplication as equal-sized groups, repeated addition and arrays. Use rows and columns to count the same total in different ways.

Start here

The child can count objects to 20 and make groups with the same number in each. Begin with two groups of two.

Use a pencil and up to 20 counters, buttons or blocks. Build each picture before writing. Say “groups of” rather than expecting times-table recall.

Print and use

Print A4 at actual size (100%). Child pages: **2-6**. Answers and feedback: **7**. Colour is optional; every task works in black and white. Pages may be used separately.

Model page 2 with real objects. Keep teacher or adult support available. Accept building, circling, drawing, counting and spoken reasoning before written recording.

What to try next

Makes groups of different sizes	Deal one counter to each hoop in turn, then check every hoop has the same number.
Counts every counter from one	Touch one whole group while skip-counting by the group size; check with repeated addition.
Confuses rows and columns	Trace each horizontal row, then each vertical column. Turn the page and confirm the total stays the same.
Works confidently	Hide the counters and ask the child to predict the total, then rebuild to check.

Scope and source

Supported one-step equal-group practice with totals to 20. It does not establish times-table recall, formal multiplication fluency or unequal-group comparison. Based on DfE Year 1 mathematics and primary mathematics guidance (England; OGL v3.0). Original TheLearnDen tasks and artwork; not an official assessment. Free to print and share.

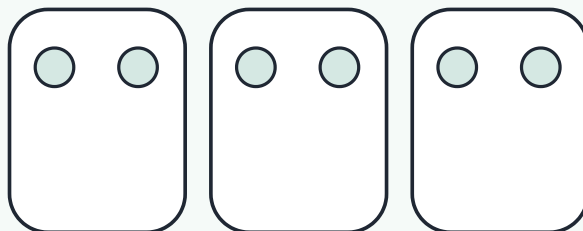


Equal groups and arrays

Name: _____ Date: _____

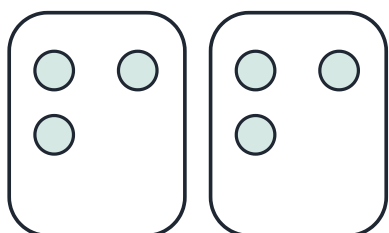
Try it together

Three plates with two counters on each plate make 3 equal groups of 2. Count 2, 4, 6. There are 6 altogether.

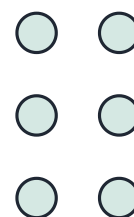


$$2 + 2 + 2 = 6$$

Build, check, say



Are the groups equal?



How many rows? How many in each?

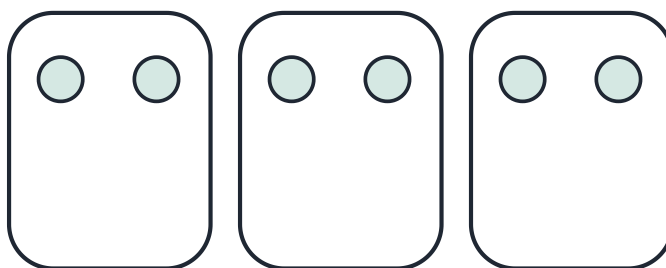
Equal means every group has the same number.



PRACTISE WITH SUPPORT · TOTALS TO 20

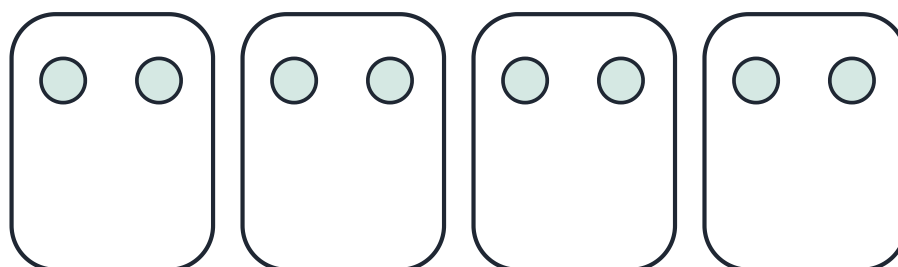
Make equal groups

- 1 Count the equal groups.
How many counters altogether?



3 groups of 2 =

- 2 Write repeated addition for
4 groups of 2.



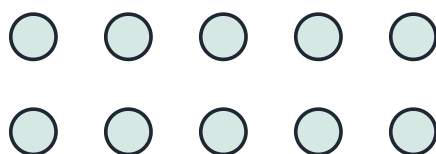
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PRACTISE WITH SUPPORT · TOTALS TO 20

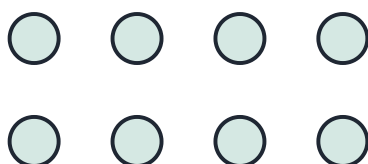
Read an array

- 3 This array has 2 rows of 5.
How many counters?



2 groups of 5 =

- 4 Count the first array. Turn it.
Does the total change?



Both arrays have counters.

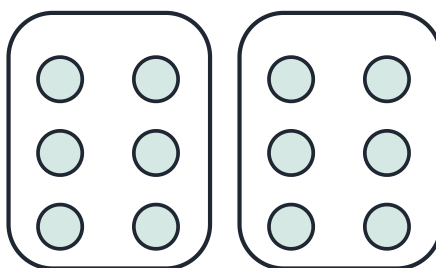


PRACTISE WITH SUPPORT · TOTALS TO 20

Double and zero

5 Double 6.

Make two equal groups.



$$6 + 6 =$$

6 There are 4 empty plates.

How many counters altogether?



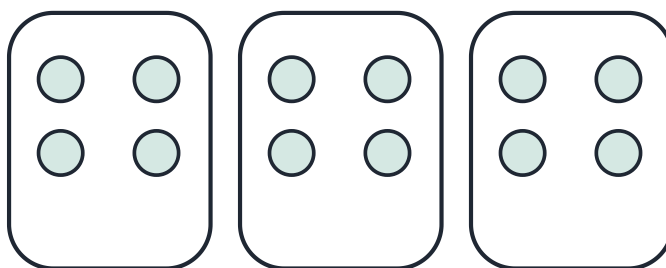
$$4 \text{ groups of } 0 =$$



REASON AND EXPLAIN · TOTALS TO 20

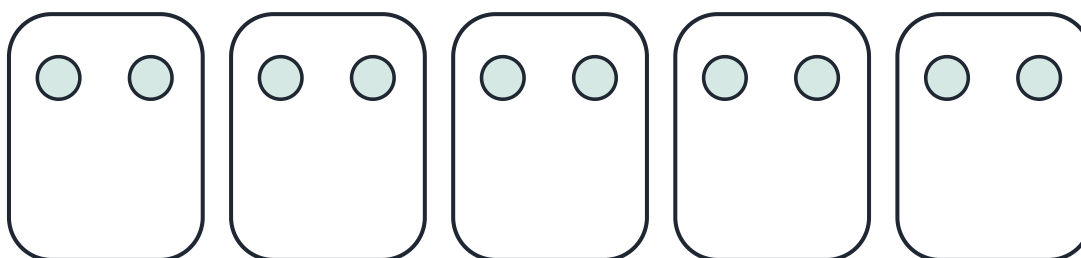
Solve and explain

- 7 Sam says, “3 groups of 4 make 11.”
Is Sam right? Show why.



The total is .

- 8 There are 5 baskets.
Each basket has 2 apples.
How many apples altogether?



altogether



ADULT ANSWER GUIDE

Answers and next steps

Ask the child to build or point to the equal groups. Accept correct spoken answers and scribe when writing is the barrier. Record support; this is not a timed tables test.

- 1** **6** Three equal groups of two contain six counters.
Accept the independently checked whole-number answer and the requested equal-group model or spoken explanation.
- 2** **$2 + 2 + 2 + 2 = 8$** Four groups of two can be counted as $2 + 2 + 2 + 2 = 8$.
Accept the complete repeated-addition equation or an equivalent spoken count of 2, 4, 6, 8.
- 3** **10** Two rows of five make ten altogether.
Accept the independently checked whole-number answer and the requested equal-group model or spoken explanation.
- 4** **No; the total is 8.** The turned array has four rows of two, but still contains eight counters.
Accept 8 for both orientations and an explanation that no counters were added or removed.
- 5** **12** Double six means two equal groups of six: twelve.
Accept the independently checked whole-number answer and the requested equal-group model or spoken explanation.
- 6** **0** Four empty groups contain zero counters altogether.
Accept the independently checked whole-number answer and the requested equal-group model or spoken explanation.
- 7** **No; the total is 12.** Three groups of four make twelve, so the claim of eleven is incorrect.
Accept “no” and 12, supported by an array, equal groups, skip-counting or repeated addition.
- 8** **10** Five baskets with two apples in each hold ten apples altogether.
Accept the independently checked whole-number answer and the requested equal-group model or spoken explanation.

My practice trail

Optional: colour one circle for each question tried and discussed. This records practice, not a test score.



One thing to practise next: _____