

Fractions of sets

Example

Granny Crinkle has 12 cats.

A third of them are ginger, a third grey and a third black. How many of each colour are there?

Answer There are the same number of each colour.

Discussion



Practical

Animal treats Granny gave some treats to her animals. Work out how many treats each animal got. cubes or counters Write down any addition facts you used to help. Write a fraction equation to record your answer. Granny gave $\frac{1}{2}$ the Granny gave $\frac{1}{3}$ of her dog treats to each seed packets to each of her dogs. of her birds. 12 buckets 20 pieces d of cheese Granny gave $\frac{1}{5}$ of the cheese to each Granny gave $\frac{1}{u}$ of the scraps of her rats. to each of her pigs. 20 Dandelion e leaves Granny gave $\frac{1}{4}$ of the dandelion leaves to each of her rabbits.

NA2-1: Use simple additive strategies with ... fractions. NA2-6: Communicate and interpret simple additive strategies, using words, diagrams (pictures) and symbols. NA2-7: Generalise that whole numbers can be partitioned in many ways.

Equations

An equation has an equals sign.

The equals sign tells us that the value of the left hand side of the equation equals the value of the right-hand side.





x

x

Example

Write an equation for this diagram. Find the value of *x*.

The equation for this diagram is 3x + 2 = 17.

To find what 3x equals, subtract 2 from both strips first.

3x = 15



x

2

To find what x equals, work out how 15 can be shared equally by 3 lots of x.

15 ÷ 3 = 5

x = 5

Activity 3

Write equations for each set of strips.
Work out the value of the unknown number.



