Dear Family,

This week your child is learning to split numbers to multiply.

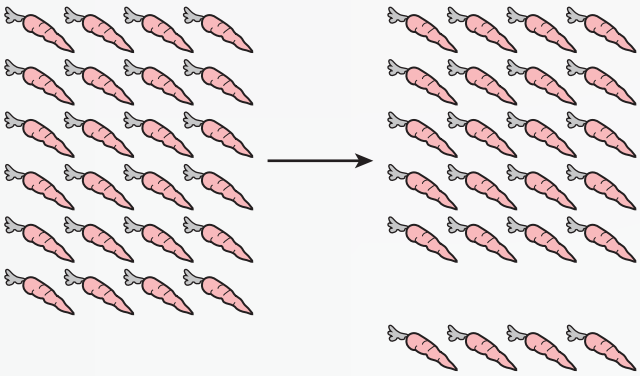
To solve a hard multiplication sentence, you can split one factor, or break it apart into smaller numbers, to make two easier multiplication sentences.

factor: a number that is multiplied

product: the answer to a multiplication problem

Pete planted 6 rows of carrots in his garden. Each row has 4 carrots. How many carrots did Pete plant?

Maybe you don't remember 6×4 but you do know 5×4 and 1×4.



6 rows of 4 carrots is the same as 5 rows of 4 carrots and 1 row of 4 carrots.

$6 \times 4 = (5 \times 4) + (1 \times 4) = 20 + 4 = 24$

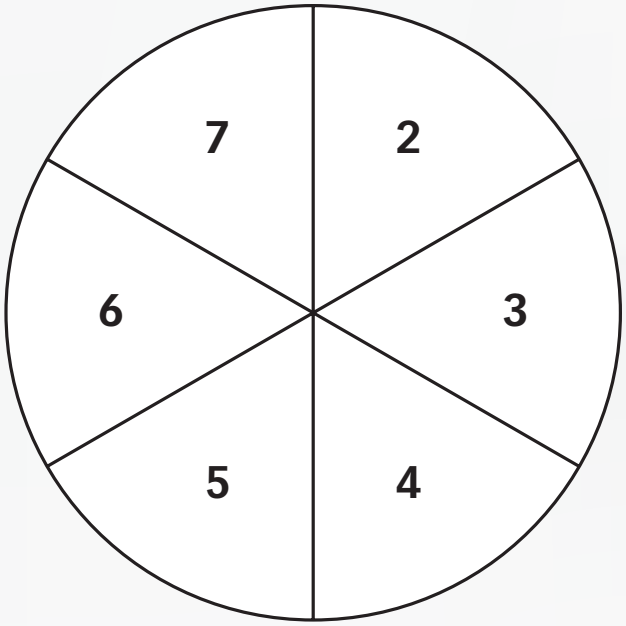
Invite your child to share what he or she knows about splitting numbers to multiply by doing the following activity together.

NEXT

Splitting Numbers Activity

Materials: 42 pennies or other small counters, a paper clip, a pencil, and this 2–7 spinner

Do this activity with your child to practice splitting numbers to learn multiplication facts.



- Put the tip of the pencil through the paper clip at the center of the spinner.
- Have your child spin the spinner twice to determine the number of rows and columns in an array.
- Work together to build the array using the pennies.
- Have your child write the multiplication sentence shown by the array.
  For example: 7×5
- Ask your child to choose where to separate two rows in the array to show breaking apart a factor.
- Have your child write the two multiplication sentences he or she has made by breaking apart the rows in the array.
  For example: $(5 \times 5) + (2 \times 5)$
- Ask your child to find the two products, then add the products to find the answer to the original problem.
  For example: $25 + 10 = 35$
- Together, count the objects in the array to check the answer, then write the multiplication fact.
  For example: $7 \times 5 = 35$.