

Unit Abstract

Helping Students Justify and Reason Division as the Inverse of Multiplication

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This unit was developed to deepen third grade students' understanding of both multiplication and division and their relationship to each other. The unit also focuses on persevering through and making sense of real world problems. The unit contains lessons designed for collaboration. The use of 'Think/Pair/Square' and Gallery Walks protocols allows students to share and justify their explanations to problems. Peers get the opportunity to question, analyze, and evaluate other students' mathematical thinking. Cooperative learning can encourage mathematical concepts to be more fully understood. Multiplication and division understanding is essential for students in grade three. Having a solid background with these two operations lays the foundation for a deeper understanding of more complex mathematics later in life.