

Paige Copenhaver

5th Grade

Kingsport City Schools

Thomas Jefferson Elementary

Daily Division

I am a fifth grade student at Thomas Jefferson Elementary in Kingsport, Tennessee. Our fifth grade curriculum introduces many new and important concepts to prepare us for middle school and the years ahead. We are also expanding concepts from previous years.

We began learning division in fourth grade and are expected to master it by the end of this school year. Division is a basic skill that I can build on. Even outside of school, division is useful.

There are many places where division comes in handy. We use division in daily life. Division can get us out of a pickle. For example, I have 9 cookies and 2 friends to share them with. Everyone wants the same number of cookies. To make sure the cookies are divided fairly we can use division to determine how many cookies each person may have. Sometimes when you are doing division the problem is not as easy as nine cookies divided among three friends. Now that I am in fifth grade we are learning to solve problems that require multiple steps in order to find a solution. When a problem is complex, you have to gather and organize your information. To find the right answer, you must accurately set up the problem. This may require multiple operations to solve a single problem.

When Christmastime rolls around, I thoroughly enjoy purchasing Christmas gifts for my family. To ensure that everyone receives a nice gift I prefer to spend the same amount of money on each person. To determine how much money I have to spend on each family member I start by counting the money in my piggy bank. Then I add that total to the money that I have in my wallet. The sum of my piggy bank and pocket money becomes the numerator. And the number of recipients is my denominator. Finally, I divide the total money by the number of recipients. The quotient tells me how much money I have to spend on each person. Division is useful in everyday life. We can use it to help in many different situations outside of the classroom. In fifth grade we are learning how to identify and organize information and set up our problems correctly so we can find the right answers. These skills will help us further down the road as we tackle more advanced math and problem solving concepts.