Using × and ÷: answers and notes

What your child practised: reading and writing multiplication and division with the ×, ÷ and = signs, and seeing that multiplication can be done in any order but division can't.

Page 1 · Warm up

5 × 2 = 10 · 10 ÷ 2 = 5

Page 2 · Try it together

4 × 5 = 20 · 20 ÷ 2 = 10. The other rows will vary: check the sign matches what was made.

Page 2 · A. Number sentences

5 × 2 = 10 (or 2 × 5 = 10)
10 ÷ 2 = 5
3 × 10 = 30 (or 10 × 3 = 30)

Page 3 · B. × or ÷

4 × 5 = 20 · 20 ÷ 5 = 4 · 6 × 2 = 12
12 ÷ 2 = 6 · 7 × 10 = 70 · 30 ÷ 10 = 3

Page 3 · C. Fill the gaps

5 × 4 = **20** · **8** × 2 = 16 · 30 ÷ 10 = **3**
18 ÷ 2 = **9** · 25 ÷ **5** = 5 · 2 × 10 = 10 × **2**

Page 3 · D. Stories

Bunnies: **4 × 2 = 8** carrots (2 × 4 = 8 is fine too)
Seeds: **15 ÷ 5 = 3** in each pot

Challenge: No, Leo isn't right. Swapping works for × (2 × 5 = 5 × 2), but not for ÷. 10 ÷ 2 means 10 shared between 2, which is 5 each. 2 ÷ 10 means 2 shared between 10: no one even gets a whole one. Try both with real things.

Watch out for

- **Mixing up the × and ÷ signs.** Ask "Are we making groups, or sharing out?" The ÷ sign has two dots and a line; the × sign is a cross.
- **Swapping the numbers in a division** (writing 2 ÷ 10 for "10 shared between 2"). The whole amount always comes first.
- **Missing numbers**, like □ × 2 = 16. Count in 2s to 16 and count the steps: 8.

Going further (5 minutes, no paper)

- **Sign spotting:** say a story ("3 plates with 5 grapes each") and ask "× or ÷?"
- **Fact families:** from 2 × 5 = 10, find the others: 5 × 2 = 10, 10 ÷ 2 = 5, 10 ÷ 5 = 2.
- **In the game:** this is the last chapter. Play any chapter again, like Chapter 4, Arrays, to practise turning groups round.