



## Introduction to division

**Division** can be seen as a way of **sharing** or **grouping** a number into **equal parts**. If you share some sweets equally between 3 children, you're dividing the number of sweets by 3.

For example:  $20 \div 4 = 5$



You can think of **division** as **repeated subtraction**. For example:

$20 \div 4$  is the same as saying  $20 - 4 = 16$ ,  $16 - 4 = 12$ ,  $12 - 4 = 8$ ,  $8 - 4 = 4$ ,  $4 - 4 = 0$

Here there are 5 lots of 4.

When you divide numbers you use the **division sign**:  $\div$

When you're carrying out division calculations it's important to keep the numbers in the **correct order**.

For example:

$$10 \div 5 = 2$$



is not the same as

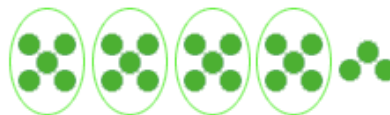
$$5 \div 10 = 0.5$$



## Remainder

Sometimes when you divide you have an amount left over. This is called the **remainder**,  $r = \text{remainder}$ .

For example:  $23 \div 4 = 5 \text{ r } 3$



If you used a calculator to work out the answer you'd get the number 5.75. The 0.75 on the calculator represents **remainder 3**. This is because the calculator has shown the remainder as a decimal.

Different words can describe division. For example,  $35 \div 5 = 7$  can also be described as:

If you split 35 into 7 parts each part will contain 5.

35 shared between 5 = 7.

There are 7 groups of 5 in 35.

## Checking your calculations

Multiplication and division are linked. They are the **opposite** action of each other:

$10 \times 5 = 50$	$50 \div 5 = 10$	<b>or</b>	$50 \div 10 = 5$
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When you carry out a division you can check your answer by using **multiplication**.