In Lessons 8 through 11, students focus on multiplication and division problems with units up to 8.

You can expect to see homework that asks your child to do the following:

- Use parentheses to group numbers to make an easier problem.
- Use the break apart and distribute strategy to solve multiplication and division problems (as shown in the Sample Problem below).
- Find the value of the unknown (letter) in simple equations and in word problems.

**SAMPLE PROBLEM** *(From Lesson 10)*

Using the array, fill in the blanks to make the statements true.

\[
8 \times 7 = 7 \times 8 = 56 \\
(8 \times 5) = 40 \quad (8 \times 2) = 16
\]

\[
7 \times 8 = 8 \times (5 + 2) \\
= (8 \times 5) + (8 \times 2) \\
= 40 + 16 \\
= 56
\]
HOW YOU CAN HELP AT HOME

- Continue to practice multiplication and division, including all facts up to 8’s, from memory. Focus on the problems that your child has the most difficulty remembering. Use car rides, shopping trips, or other “in-between” times to have your child exercise her math muscles.

- Write multiplication and division facts on a beach ball, football, volleyball, or soccer ball with a permanent marker. Toss the ball to your child. He must answer the problem under his left thumb before tossing the ball back to you.

- Have your child use cereal, small candies, stickers, or small toys to construct an array that shows a multiplication by 8 problem. Then ask your child to separate the array after the fifth column. Next ask her to write and solve two smaller multiplication problems that would show how many total objects are in the larger array.