

The grid method of multiplication (4)

(2 digit with one decimal place x 1 digit)

Today your child's homework involves calculating/solving problems, using grid multiplication. This is a method of multiplication that allows children to see easily what is being multiplied together.

Example: If a skipping rope is 3.4 metres long, how much cord is needed for 7 skipping ropes?

So we need 3.4×7 .

First partition the 3.4 (split into units/ones and tenths) and place on the outside of the grid. The 7 we are multiplying by is placed at the side of the grid.

	3	0.4
7		

These partitioned numbers are then multiplied by 7 using knowledge of simple multiplication facts and place value, e.g. to calculate 0.4×7 we use knowledge that $4 \times 7 = 28$ so $0.4 \times 7 = 2.8$

	3	0.4
7	21	2.8

The numbers in the grid can now be added together mentally. E.g. $21 + 2 + 0.8 = 23.8$

	3	0.4	
7	21	2.8	= 23.8

This final number then needs to be used to answer the question:
23.8 metres of cord would be needed.