

2nd Grade Math: Multiplying by 3 Using Skip-Counting

Introduction to Skip-Counting by 3

Skip-counting by 3 means adding the number 3 repeatedly to find the total. This is an easy way to multiply by 3 and helps students build a strong foundation in multiplication.

Key Concept: Skip-Counting

- **Skip-counting** is when you count forward by a number other than 1.
- When we skip-count by 3, we count like this: 3, 6, 9, 12, 15, 18, 21, 24, 27, 30, and so on.
- Skip-counting by 3 is the same as multiplying by 3.

How to Skip-Count by 3

To skip-count by 3, you start at 3 and keep adding 3 each time. Let's look at the first few numbers you get when you skip-count by 3:

- 1 group of 3 = 3
- 2 groups of 3 = 6
- 3 groups of 3 = 9
- 4 groups of 3 = 12
- 5 groups of 3 = 15
- 6 groups of 3 = 18
- 7 groups of 3 = 21
- 8 groups of 3 = 24
- 9 groups of 3 = 27
- 10 groups of 3 = 30

Multiplication Facts for 3

By skip-counting, you are also learning the **multiplication facts** for 3:

- $1 \times 3 = 3$
- $2 \times 3 = 6$
- $3 \times 3 = 9$
- $4 \times 3 = 12$
- $5 \times 3 = 15$
- $6 \times 3 = 18$
- $7 \times 3 = 21$
- $8 \times 3 = 24$
- $9 \times 3 = 27$
- $10 \times 3 = 30$

Practice Activity: Skip-Counting

1. **Skip-Counting Together:**
 - Count together with your students starting at 3. Keep adding 3 until you reach 30 or more.
 - Write the numbers on the board: 3, 6, 9, 12, 15, 18, 21, 24, 27, 30.
2. **Hands-On Activity:**
 - Use counters or objects. Ask students to create groups of 3 and count the total as they add more groups.
 - Example: Start with 1 group of 3 (3), then 2 groups (6), then 3 groups (9), and so on.

Word Problems Using Multiplying by 3

1. **Problem 1:**
 - **Question:** There are 3 apples in a basket. If you have 4 baskets, how many apples are there in total?
 - **Solution:** Skip-count by 3 four times: 3, 6, 9, 12. There are 12 apples.
2. **Problem 2:**
 - **Question:** You have 3 pencils in each box. If you have 6 boxes, how many pencils do you have?
 - **Solution:** Skip-count by 3 six times: 3, 6, 9, 12, 15, 18. You have 18 pencils.

Practice Questions

1. Skip-count by 3 up to 24.
 - **Answer:** 3, 6, 9, 12, 15, 18, 21, 24.
2. Multiply: $3 \times 4 = ?$
 - **Answer:** 12.
3. Multiply: $3 \times 7 = ?$
 - **Answer:** 21.

Conclusion

Skip-counting by 3 is an effective way to introduce students to multiplication. It helps them visualize and understand the concept of multiplying in groups, making multiplication by 3 easier and more intuitive!