

Dear Family,

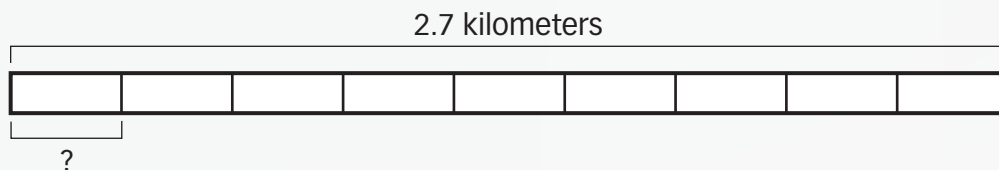
This week your child is learning to divide a decimal by a whole number.



Your child might see a problem like this:

Marty is running in a 2.7 kilometer race. Water stations are set up at 9 equal sections of the race. How far apart are the water stations?

One way to understand decimal division is to use a bar model.



The whole bar represents the length of the race, 2.7 kilometers. The bar has 9 equal sections. Find the length of each section to find how far apart the water stations are.

Divide 2.7 by 9 to find the length of each shorter section. $2.7 \div 9 = 0.3$

Another way your child is learning to divide decimals is to think about multiplying decimals. Division and multiplication are related operations.

To find $2.7 \div 9$, think $9 \times ? = 2.7$

$$9 \times ? = 27 \text{ tenths}$$

$$9 \times 3 \text{ tenths} = 27 \text{ tenths}$$

$$2.7 = 27 \text{ tenths}$$

The answer, 3 tenths, is the same as the answer found using the bar model, 0.3. The water stations are 0.3 kilometer apart.

Invite your child to share what he or she knows about dividing decimals by doing the following activity together.



Dividing Decimals Activity

Work with your child to solve a real-life problem involving dividing decimals.

- Think of something you spend money on for the whole family, such as the grocery bill, tickets to the movies, or a new board game.

Groceries	
LARGE EGGS/DOZEN	\$1.95
POTATOES IDAHO/5#	\$3.40
TOM/BASIL SAUCE	\$2.39
BREAD/WHEAT	\$2.49
ORDER TOTAL	\$10.23



- Divide the cost by the number of people in the family. This will describe the cost for each family member.
 - Example: A book of puzzles cost \$11.76.
There are 4 people in the family.
Divide 11.76 by 4 to find the cost for each family member.
- Check that the answer is reasonable. In the example above, is 29.4 a reasonable answer for $11.76 \div 4$?

Be on the lookout for other real-life examples of dividing decimals that you can share with your child.

