

# Identify the Unknown

**Materials:** Identify the Unknown cards and sorting mat

A teacher gave out 27 pencils to 9 students. Each student got the same number of pencils. How many pencils did each student get?

A baker made 27 cupcakes and packed them in small boxes. Each box held 3 cupcakes. How many boxes of cupcakes did he have?

1. Read each problem and identify the unknown. Do you need to find the number of groups or the number of items in a group? Sort the problems under the appropriate headings on the table.
2. Represent each problem using an equation with a symbol for the unknown number.
3. Use pictures, numbers, or words to solve each problem.
4. Share your work with a partner. Justify your reasoning.
5. Write two story problems using the numbers 3, 5 and 15. The first one should be a "How many groups?" type problem. The second one should be a "How many in each group?" type problem. Share your problems with your partner.

## Identify the Unknown

Number of Groups Unknown		Number of Items in a Group Unknown	
	Solve:		Solve:
	Solve:		Solve:
	Solve:		Solve:

**Identify the Unknown cards**

<p>A teacher gave out 27 pencils to 9 students. Each student got the same number of pencils. How many pencils did each student get?</p>	<p>A baker made 27 cupcakes and packed them in small boxes. Each box held 3 cupcakes. How many boxes of cupcakes did he have?</p>	<p>A gardener had 28 seeds to plant in pots. She decided to plant 7 seeds in each pot. How many pots of seeds did she plant?</p>
<p>A class of 32 students were divided equally into teams for a relay race. Each relay team had 4 students. How many relay teams were there?</p>	<p>A shopkeeper had 28 hats to display in rows in the store window. He decided to display 4 rows with the same number of hats in each row. How many hats were in each row?</p>	<p>A farmer had 32 pounds of grain. He had 8 cows to feed. Each animal was given the same amount of grain. How many pounds of grain did each animal get?</p>