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# Unit 5, Lesson 11 Dividing Rational Numbers

Let's divide signed numbers.

### 11.1 Tell Me Your Sign

Consider the equation: -27x = -35

Without computing:

- 1. Is the solution to this equation positive or negative?
- 2. Are either of these two numbers solutions to the equation?

35	35
27	$-\frac{1}{27}$

### **11.2** Multiplication and Division

- 1. Find the missing values in the equations
  - a. -3 4 = ?
  - b.  $-3 \cdot ? = 12$
  - c.  $3 \cdot ? = 12$

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d.  $? \cdot -4 = 12$ 

e. ? • 4 = -12

- 2. Rewrite the unknown factor problems as division problems.
- 3. Complete the sentences. Be prepared to explain your reasoning.
  - a. The sign of a positive number divided by a positive number is always:
  - b. The sign of a positive number divided by a negative number is always:
  - c. The sign of a negative number divided by a positive number is always:
  - d. The sign of a negative number divided by a negative number is always:
- 4. Han and Clare walk towards each other at a constant rate, meet up, and then continue past each other in opposite directions. We will call the position where they meet up 0 feet and the time when they meet up 0 seconds.
  - Han's velocity is 4 feet per second.
  - Clare's velocity is -5 feet per second.

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a. Where is each person 10 sec	onds before they meet up?		

### ♣ Are you ready for more?

It is possible to make a new number system using *only* the numbers 0, 1, 2, and 3. We will write the symbols for multiplying in this system like this:  $1 \otimes 2 = 2$ . The table shows some of the products.

b. When is each person at the position -10 feet from the meeting place?

$\otimes$	0	1	2	3
0	0	0	0	0
1		1	2	3
2			0	2
3				

- 1. In this system,  $1 \otimes 3 = 3$  and  $2 \otimes 3 = 2$ . How can you see that in the table?
- 2. What do you think  $2\otimes 1$  is?
- 3. What about  $3 \otimes 3$ ?
- 4. What do you think the solution to  $3 \otimes n = 2$  is?
- 5. What about  $2 \otimes n = 3$ ?

### 11.3 Drilling Down

#### Interactive digital version available

a.openup.org/ms-math/en/s/ccss-7-5-11-3



A water well drilling rig has dug to a height of -60 feet after one full day of continuous use.

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- 1. Assuming the rig drilled at a constant rate, what was the height of the drill after 15 hours?
- 2. If the rig has been running constantly and is currently at a height of -147.5 feet, for how long has the rig been running?





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												hours
	Ø	1	0	20	30	40	50	60	70	80	90	100
	-50											
	-100											
	-150											
	-200											
feet	-250											

3. Use the coordinate grid to show the drill's progress.

4. At this rate, how many hours will it take until the drill reaches -250 feet?

## Lesson 11 Summary

Any division problem is actually a multiplication problem:

- $6 \div 2 = 3$  because  $2 \cdot 3 = 6$
- $6 \div -2 = -3$  because  $-2 \cdot -3 = 6$
- $-6 \div 2 = -3$  because  $2 \cdot -3 = -6$
- $-6 \div -2 = 3$  because  $-2 \cdot 3 = -6$

Because we know how to multiply signed numbers, that means we know how to divide them.

- The sign of a positive number divided by a negative number is always negative.
- The sign of a negative number divided by a positive number is always negative.
- The sign of a negative number divided by a negative number is always positive.