Critical Concept: Multiplication

Curricular content

Multiplication of 2 or 3 digit numbers by one digit numbers

Examples and Strategies

In grade 3 we start multiplication by building many arrays. If students haven't done this yet, start there. Put 18 tiles down. Have students build arrays. The number of tiles in each row and column are FACTORS of the number 18. You can't make a rectangle with side length of 5 using 18 tiles because 5 is NOT a factor of 18. The next steps to move ahead are:

1. Multiplying by multiples of 10:

$$3 \times 1 = 3$$

 $3 \times 10 = 30$
 $3 \times 100 = 300$
Show these using base ten blocks

Language

Array: a rectangular representation of multiplication of two numbers. For example: a rectangular array made of 4 rows of 6 tiles (24 tiles in total)

Factor: a number that you multiply with another number to get a product

Product: the result when two or more factors are multiplied together.

Distributive property: partitioning a number by place value and multiplying each addend separately by the factor and adding the products together. (partial products)

Commutative property: order doesn't matter in multiplication

Area model: creating a rectangle with each side length being one of the factors

2. Multiplication by decomposition – this is an important step in understanding multiplying multiples of 10- once they have seen it and understood it, go to step 3.

Example
$$20 \times 30 =$$
 $(2 \times 10) \times (3 \times 10)$ $(2 \times 3) \times (10 \times 10)$ $(2 \times 3) \times (10 \times 10)$ $(3 \times 10) \times (3 \times 10)$

It is important to understand this, rather than simply saying multiply the 2 and 3 and put 2 zeros on the end. (see next step to explain why)

3. Annex zero (please don't say ADD zeros- when we add zero to a number the quantity doesn't change- and this will be important when we do algebra and zero pairs)

20 x 30 = 600 When they understand the property of multiplication shown above, you can link this by showing you are multiplying the 2 and 3 then "annexing two zeros"- because the two zeros represent the 100 from the 10 x 10 part of the equation.

Example: $\underline{50} \times \underline{60} = \underline{30}00$ This example shows the danger in saying "count the zeros and put that many on the answer" - because there are 3 zeros in the real answer!

4. Area model of multiplication: CRITICAL to future understandings! It is essential that we show the area model PRIOR to shortening it to the "window pane" type model. Students need to understand that multiplication shows the area- not just the trick of multiplying by decomposing the numbers.

The model isn't drawn to scale, but is approximate.



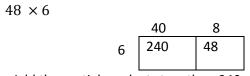
Distributive property of multiplication: decompose the factor(s) and multiply each addend separately then add the products.

Example: $23 \times 7 =$ Decompose 23 into (20 + 3)Multiply each of the addends by 7 $(20 \times 7) + (3 \times 7) =$ 140 + 21 = 161Connect this to the area model shown above.

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"Window pane" model shows the same thing, but is not drawn in any kind of rough approximation of area. Make sure students understand WHY we can multiply this way before moving to the shorter step of using the window pane (equal size) boxes

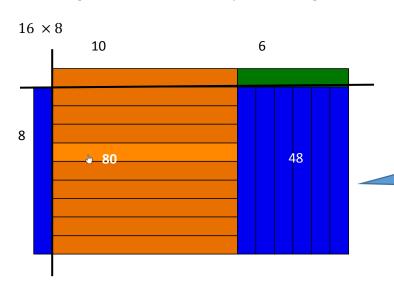
Example



This time I didn't worry about approximating the size and I made equal size boxes

Add the partial products together 240 + 48 = 288

b) showing the area model for multiplication using Cuisenaire rods: this can help students see the distributive property and area model at work.

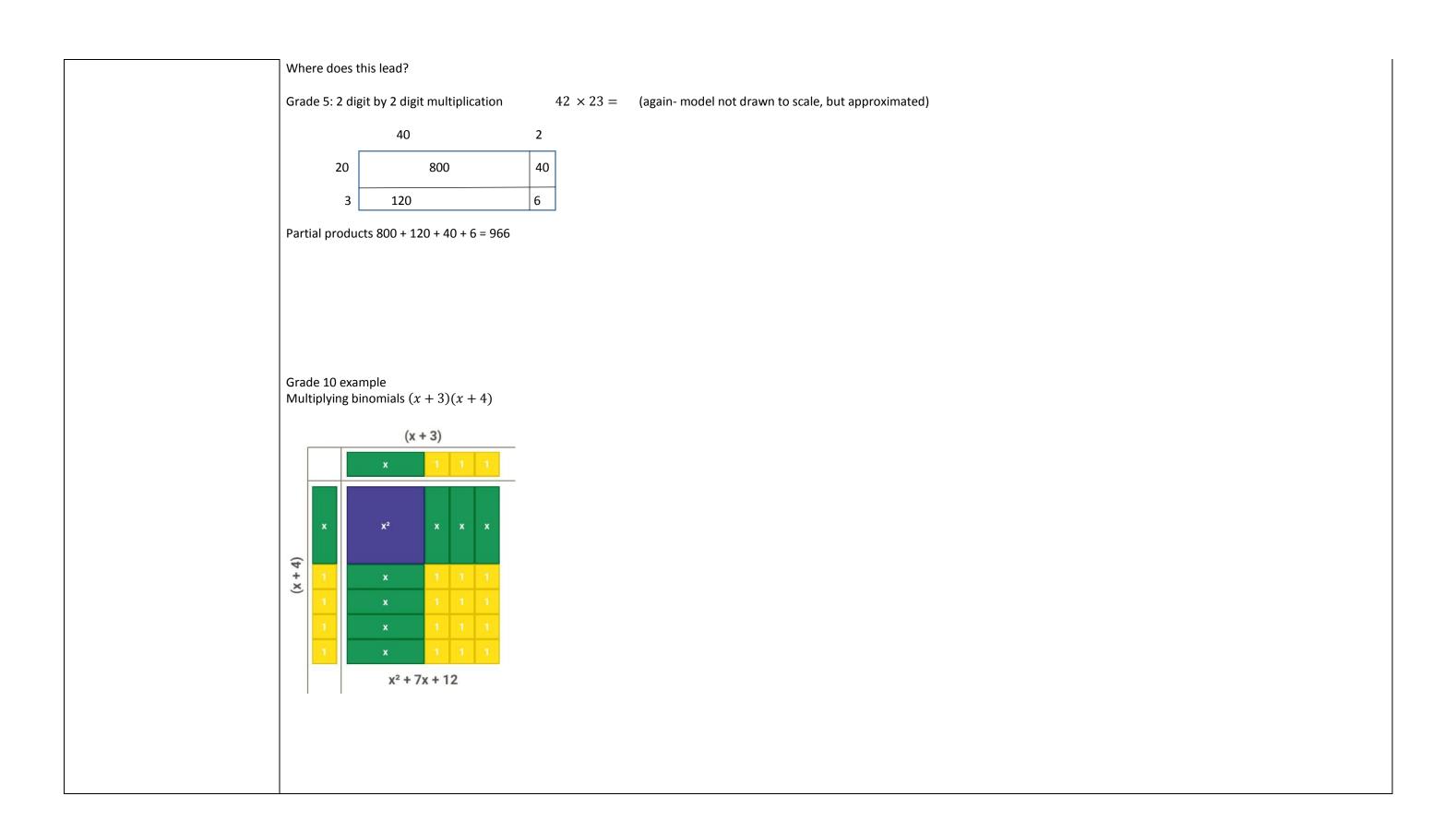


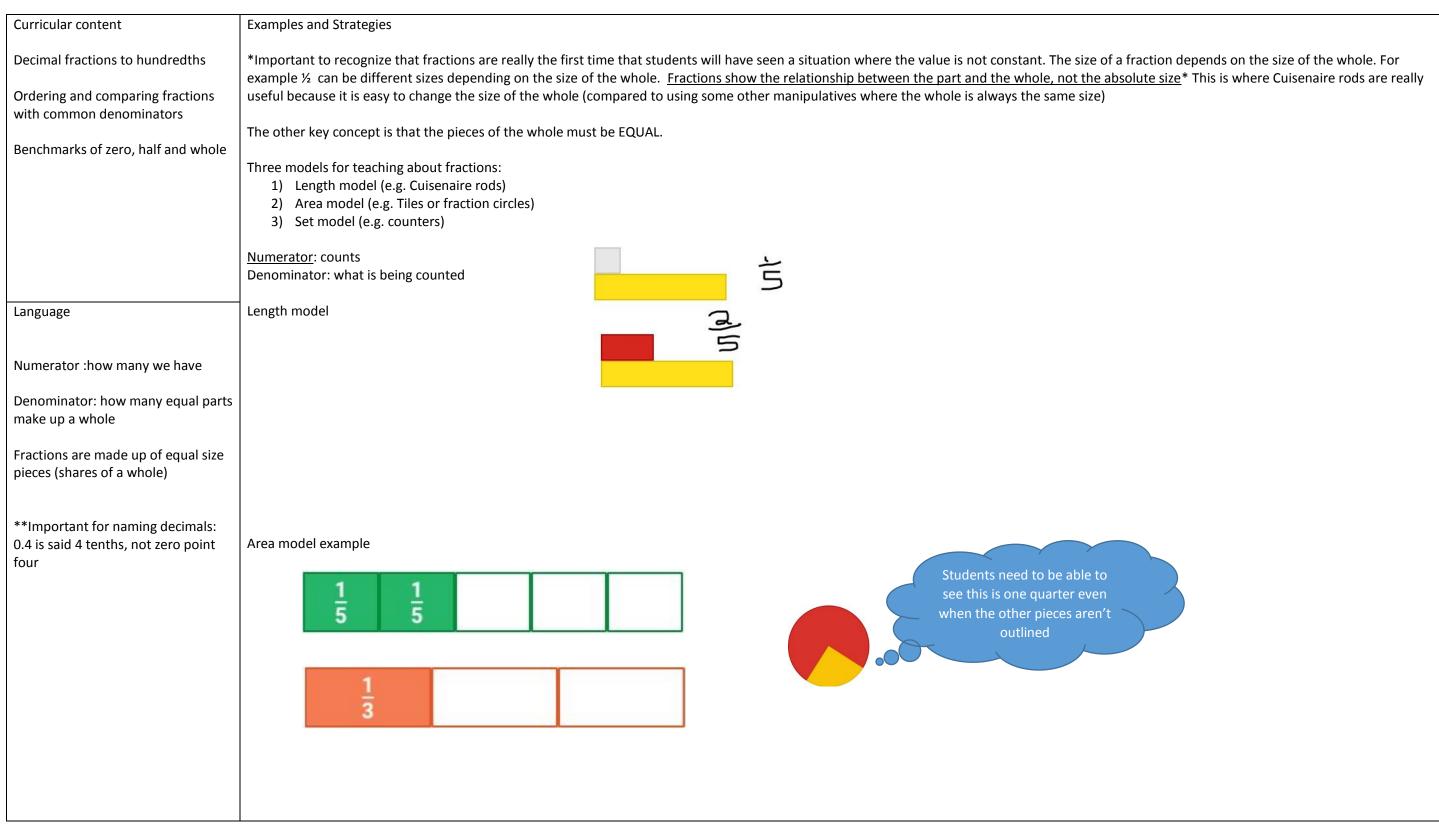
Modeling with Cuisenaire rods: put the factors around the outside and then fill in the grid with the blocks. This allows students to visually see the "80" being made of eight 10 rods, and the "48" comprised of six 8 rods.

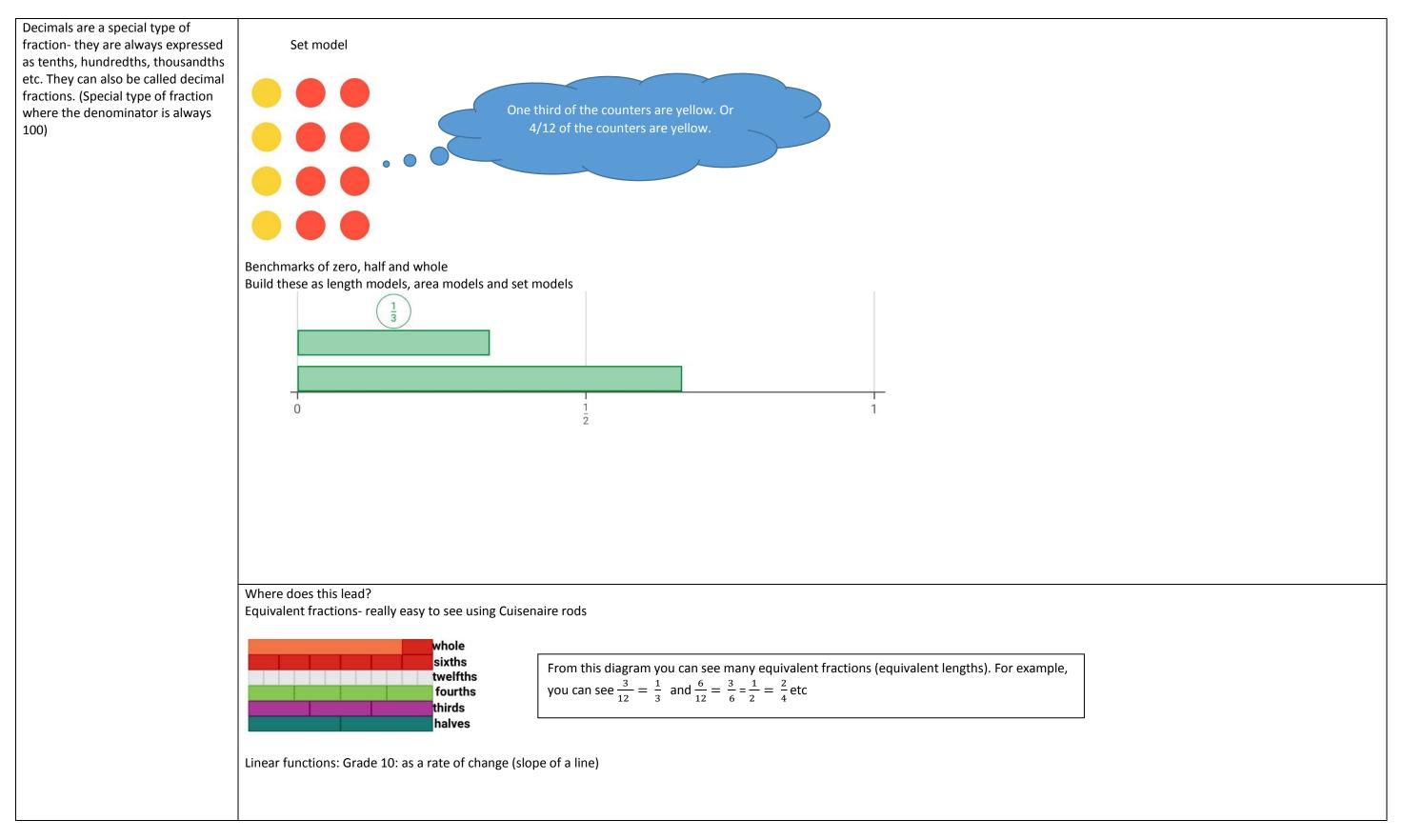
80 + 48 = 128

c) Once students really understand the area model, you can move into showing partial products in a more traditional format

140 and 21 are the partial products that we add together to get the final product







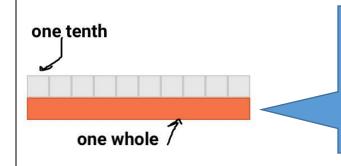
Curricular content

Decimals to hundredths

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Examples and Strategies

Start with a review of place value showing each place value is ten times larger/smaller than the column next to it



Each of the grey/white is one tenth (because it takes ten to make a whole orange). You can show that one tenth is written 0.1 or $\frac{1}{10}$. Decimals are fractions written with a multiple of ten as a denominator.

If you continue putting tenths in the row, you have 11 tenths, or 1.1; 12 tenths or 1.2 etc.

Language

decimals are a special type of fraction where the denominator is always 100

Also called decimal fractions

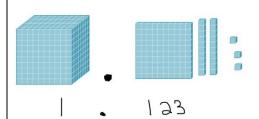
Naming decimals: instead of "point" we say "and"
E.g. 1.62 is said One and sixty two hundredths

Model tenths using Cuisenaire rods as in the example above. Show that ten tenths is one whole.

There are special manipulatives you can get that are built proportionally for decimals. (Decimal strips)

If you don't have these, you can use the regular base ten blocks. Make sure students understand that you are calling the large cube "one".

Name the cube "one whole" The flats are then tenths Rods are hundredths Unit cubes are now thousandths



Build numbers using this model. Practice naming. Example 1.04 is one and 4 hundredths 1.205 is 1 and two hundred five thousandths

An instructional strategy is to have students create these numbers by standing at the front of the room. Have one student be the "whole", another be the "tenth", another the "hundredths". Write a number on the board e.g. 1. 4 Each student should then hold the appropriate amount of manipulatives. The person holding the hundredths should show they are holding nothing- this connects to being able to write zeroes on the end of the number without changing the quantity. Repeat with other numbers such as 2.36, 1.05 etc.

Then move on to having students build these numbers at their desks.

Be sure to compare decimals and be able to identify which of two or more numbers is larger. E.g. 1. 6 and 1.06

Where does this lead?
All further operations with decimals.
Decimals are used every year from now until grade 12 and beyond☺