



Lesson 12: Division of Integers

Student Outcomes

- Students recognize that division is the reverse process of multiplication, and that integers can be divided provided the divisor is not zero. If a and b are integers, then $a \div b = \frac{a}{b}$.
- Students understand that every quotient of integers (with a non-zero divisor) is a rational number and divide signed numbers by dividing their absolute values to get the absolute value of the quotient. The quotient is positive if the divisor and dividend have the same signs and negative if they have opposite signs.

Classwork

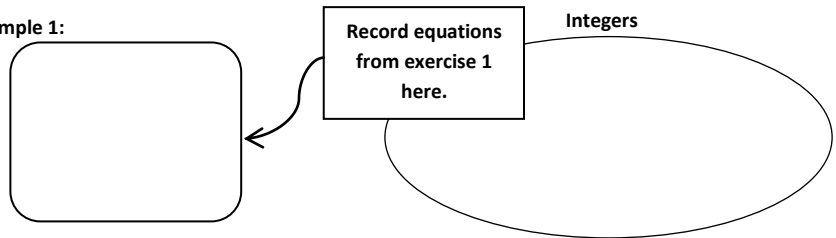
Exercise 1 (5 minutes): Recalling the Relationship Between Multiplication and Division

The teacher gives each student a card with a whole number multiplication or division math fact on it. Students move around the room in search of other students who have related math facts. (If the class size does not allow for exact multiples of 4, then extra cards may be placed on desk tops for students to find.) Four cards will make a “match” (e.g., $3 \times 4 = 12$, $12 \div 3 = 4$, $12 \div 4 = 3$, and $3 \times 12 = 36$). After four students locate each other, they sit down together and record the equations from their cards into their student materials as indicated below. The teacher circulates among

MP.

students as a facilitator, guiding those who are having trouble. Once all groups are formed and each group has shared its related facts with the class, the teacher collects the fact cards and directs students back to their original seats.

Example 1:



Example 1 (15 minutes): Guided Activity Transitioning from Integer Multiplication Rules to Integer

Division Rules

Students make an “integer multiplication facts bubble” by expanding upon the four related math facts they wrote down.

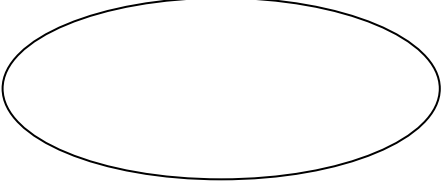
Step 1: Students construct three similar integer multiplication problems, two problems using one negative number as a factor, and one with both negative numbers as factors. Students may use the commutative property to extend their three equations to .

Scaffolding:

- Provide an example of a completed integer bubble for students who are struggling with the task.

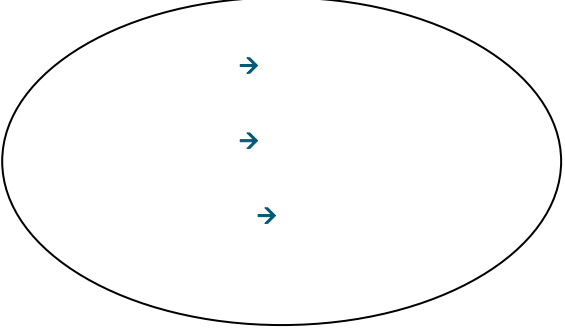
Example 1
Record your group's number sentences in the space on the left below.

Integers



Step 2: Students use the integer multiplication facts in their integer bubble to create 6 related integer division facts. Group members should discuss the inverse relationship and the resulting division fact that must be true based on each multiplication equation.

Integers



MP. Step 3: Students use the equations in their integer bubble and the patterns they observed to answer the following questions.

- a. List examples of division problems that produced a quotient that is a negative number.
 ; ; ;
- b. If the quotient is a negative number, what must be true about the signs of the dividend and divisor?
The signs of the dividend and divisor are not the same; one is positive and one is negative.
- c. List your examples of division problems that produced a quotient that is a positive number.
 ; ; ;
- d. If the quotient is a positive number, what must be true about the signs of the dividend and divisor?
The signs of the dividend and the divisor are the same in each case.

Step 4: Whole-group discussion. Students share answers from Step 3 with the class. The class comes to a consensus and realizes that since multiplication and division are related* (inverse operations), the integer rules for these operations are related. Students summarize the rules for division, which are stated in the Lesson Summary of the student materials. (*Reminder: The rules apply to all situations except dividing by zero.)

Rules for Dividing Two Integers:

- A quotient is negative if the divisor and the dividend have opposite signs.
- A quotient is positive if the divisor and the dividend have the same signs.

Exercise 2 (8 minutes): Is the Quotient of Two Integers Always an Integer?

MP. Students explore the question above by coming up with an example to prove or refute their position.

Allow 3–5 minutes for students to create a math example or *counter example*, along with a written response to support their position. Students present their cases to the class.

Exercise 2: Is the Quotient of Two Integers Always an Integer

Is the quotient of two integers always an integer? Use the work space below to create quotients of integers. Answer the question and use examples or a counterexample to support your claim.

Work Space:

example of an integer quotient

counterexample: has a non-integer quotient

Answer:

No, quotients of integers are not always integers. In my first example above, _____ yields an integer quotient _____. However, when I switched the divisor and dividend, that quotient divides a number with a smaller absolute value by a number with a greater absolute value, making the quotient a rational number between _____ and _____. In dividing _____, the quotient is _____ . Of course _____ is not an integer, but is the opposite value of the fraction _____. This counterexample shows that quotients of integers are not always integers.

Conclusion: Every quotient of two integers is always a rational number, but not always an integer. Once students have disproved the statement with a counterexample (where the quotient is a decimal or fraction), ask students to determine what must be true of two integers if their quotient is an integer. Students may need some time to study the examples where the quotient is an integer to determine that the quotient of two integers, $\frac{a}{b}$, is an integer when either a or b for any integer k .

Exercise 3 (5 minutes): Different Representations of the Same Quotient

Students are given the three different representations below and must determine the answers. Are the answers the same or different? Why or why not? Allow time for students to answer with their groups or learning partner before addressing this in the form of a whole-group discussion.

Exercise 3: Different Representation of the Same Quotient

Are the answers to the three quotients below the same or different? Why or why not?

a.

b.

c.

The answers to the problems are the same: $-\frac{1}{2}$. In problem c, the negative in front of the parentheses changes the value inside the parentheses to its opposite. The value in the parentheses is $\frac{1}{2}$, and the opposite of $\frac{1}{2}$ is $-\frac{1}{2}$.

Scaffolding:

- For part (c), remind students to think about how a negative sign in front of a number or expression means the opposite.

Exercise 4 (2 minutes): Fact Fluency—Integer Division

(See attached hand-out.) Students answer as many questions as possible in one minute. One minute is allocated to going over the answers and recognizing achievements. Students look for patterns to improve efficiency.

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Exercise 4: Fact Fluency—Integer Division

1.		15.		29.	
2.		16.		30.	
3.		17.		31.	
4.		18.		32.	
5.		19.		33.	
6.		20.		34.	
7.		21.		35.	
8.		22.		36.	
9.		23.		37.	
10.		24.		38.	
11.		25.		39.	
12.		26.		40.	
13.		27.		41.	
14.		28.		42.	

Closing (5 minutes)

- How are the rules for multiplying integers and dividing integers related?
- If I have a negative quotient, what must be true about the signs of the dividend and/or divisor?
- If I have a positive quotient, what must be true about the signs of the dividend and/or divisor?

Lesson Summary

The rules for dividing integers are similar to the rules for multiplying integers (when the divisor is not zero). The quotient is positive if the divisor and dividend have the same signs, and negative if they have opposite signs.

The quotient of any 2 integers (with a non-zero divisor) will be a rational number. If a and b are integers, then

$$\frac{a}{b} = \frac{a}{b}.$$

Exit Ticket (5 minutes)

MP. Students determine whether or not various representations of the quotient of two integers are equivalent.



Name _____

Date _____

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Exit Ticket

- Mrs. McIntire, a seventh grade math teacher, is grading papers. Three students gave the following responses to the same math problem:

Student one: —

Student two: –

Student three: –

On Mrs. McIntire’s answer key for the assignment, the correct answer is: . Which student answer(s) is/ are correct? Explain.

- Complete the table below. Provide an answer for each integer division problem and write a related equation using integer multiplication.

Integer Division Problem	Related Equation Using Integer Multiplication



Exit Ticket Sample Solutions

1. Mrs. McIntire, a seventh grade math teacher, is grading papers. Three students gave the following responses to the same math problem:

Student one: $-\frac{5}{10}$

Student two: $-\frac{1}{2}$

Student three: $-\frac{1}{2}$

On Mrs. McIntire’s answer key for the assignment, the correct answer is: $-\frac{1}{2}$. Which student answer(s) is/ are correct? Explain.

All students answers are correct, since they are all equivalent to $-\frac{1}{2}$.

For student one: $-\frac{5}{10}$ means divided by 10. When dividing a positive by a negative, the answer will be negative five tenths or $-\frac{5}{10}$.

For student two: $-\frac{1}{2}$ means the opposite of $\frac{1}{2}$. One-half is equivalent to five-tenths, and the opposite is negative five tenths or $-\frac{5}{10}$.

For student three: $-\frac{1}{2}$ means divided by 2. When dividing a negative by a positive, the answer will be negative five tenths or $-\frac{5}{10}$.

2. Complete the table below. Provide an answer for each integer division problem and write a related equation using integer multiplication.

Integer Division Problem	Related Equation Using Integer Multiplication
$12 \div 3$	
$-12 \div 3$	
$12 \div -3$	
$-12 \div -3$	



Problem Set Sample Solutions

1. Find the missing values in each column:

Column A

Column B

Column C

Column D

- a. Describe the pattern you see in each column's answers, relating it to the problems' divisors and dividends. Why is this so?

The pattern in the columns' answers is the same two positive values followed by the same two negative values. This is so for the first two problems because the divisor and the dividend have the same signs and absolute values, which yields a positive quotient. This is so for the second two problems because the divisor and dividend have different signs, but the same absolute values, which yields a negative quotient.

- b. Describe the pattern you see between the answers for Columns A and B. (For instance, compare the first answer in Column A to the first answer in Column B; compare the second answer in Column A to the second answer in Column B; etc.) Why is this so?

The answers in Column B are each one-half of the corresponding answers in Column A. That is because the dividend of 12 in Column A is divided by 4 , and the dividend of 6 in Column B is divided by 2 (and so on, with the same order and same absolute values but different signs). Since 2 is half of 4 , the quotient (answer) in Column B will be one-half of the quotient in Column A.

- c. Describe the pattern you see between the answers for Columns C and D. Why is this so?

The answers in Column D are each one-third of the corresponding answers in Column C. That is because the dividend of 12 in Column C is divided by 4 , and the dividend of 4 in Column D is divided by 3 (and so on, with the same order and same absolute values but different signs). Since 3 is one third of 4 , the quotient (answer) in Column D will be one-third of the quotient in Column C.



Exercise 4: Fact Fluency—Integer Division

1.		15.		29.	
2.		16.		30.	
3.		17.		31.	
4.		18.		32.	
5.		19.		33.	
6.		20.		34.	
7.		21.		35.	
8.		22.		36.	
9.		23.		37.	
10.		24.		38.	
11.		25.		39.	
12.		26.		40.	
13.		27.		41.	
14.		28.		42.	