

Lesson 7: Using Diagrams to Represent Multiplication

Goals

- Comprehend how the phrase “partial products” (in spoken and written language) refers to decomposing a multiplication problem.
- Coordinate area diagrams and vertical calculations that represent the same decimal multiplication problem.
- Use an area diagram to represent and justify (orally and in writing) how to find the product of two decimals.

Learning Targets

- I can use area diagrams and partial products to represent and find products of decimals.

Lesson Narrative

Students continue to use area diagrams to find products of decimals, while also beginning to generalize the process. They revisit two methods used to find products in earlier grades: decomposing a rectangle into sub-rectangles and finding the sum of their areas, and using the multiplication algorithm.

Students have previously seen that, in a rectangular area diagram, the side lengths can be decomposed by place value. For instance, in an 18 by 23 rectangle, the 18-unit side can be decomposed into 10 and 8 units (tens and ones), and the 23-unit side can be expressed as 20 and 3 (also tens and ones), creating four sub-rectangles whose areas constitute four partial products. The sum of these partial products is the product of 18 and 23. Students extend the same reasoning to represent and find products such as $(1.8) \cdot (2.3)$. Then, students explore how these partial products correspond to the numbers in the multiplication algorithm.

Students connect multiplication of decimals to that of whole numbers (MP7), look for correspondences between geometric diagrams and arithmetic calculations, and use these connections to calculate products of various decimals.

Alignments

Building On

- 4.NBT.B.5: Multiply a whole number of up to four digits by a one-digit whole number, and multiply two two-digit numbers, using strategies based on place value and the properties of operations. Illustrate and explain the calculation by using equations, rectangular arrays, and/or area models.
- 5.NBT.B.7: Add, subtract, multiply, and divide decimals to hundredths, using concrete models or drawings and strategies based on place value, properties of operations, and/or the

relationship between addition and subtraction; relate the strategy to a written method and explain the reasoning used.

Addressing

- 6.NS.B.3: Fluently add, subtract, multiply, and divide multi-digit decimals using the standard algorithm for each operation.

Instructional Routines

- MLR7: Compare and Connect

Required Materials

Graph paper

Rulers

Required Preparation

Some students might find it helpful to use graph paper to help them align the digits for vertical calculations. Consider having graph paper accessible for the last activity: Connecting Area Diagrams to Calculations with Decimals.

Student Learning Goals

Let's use area diagrams to find products.

7.1 Estimate the Product

Warm Up: 5 minutes

This warm-up prompts students to review multiplication of decimals and think about the size of a product given the decimals being multiplied. In grade 5, students multiplied decimals to hundredths using concrete representations or drawings, place-value strategies, and properties of operations. Though they may know how to find decimal products up to hundredths, they may not always consider the reasonableness of their answers. Students may simply perform the computation and “count the number of decimal places” to put the decimal point in the product. Discuss why each estimated product makes sense based on what they know about place value and multiplication.

Building On

- 5.NBT.B.7

Launch

Tell students you will display a multiplication expression along with three possible estimates of its value. Their job is to select the best estimate and be able to explain why it is the best. Display one problem at a time. Give students 30 seconds of quiet think time per problem and ask them to give a signal when they have an answer and a strategy. Follow with a whole-class discussion.

Anticipated Misconceptions

Some students might mix together an estimation strategy (e.g., rounding the factors) and the method of “counting the number of decimal places” (which is applied to precise calculations) and

put the decimal point in their estimate. For example, to estimate $74 \cdot (8.1)$, they might round the factors to 70 and 8 and find a product of 560. But because they see that there is a total of 1 place after the decimal point in the original factors, they move the decimal point in 560 one place to the left and choose 56 as their answer. Prompt students to think about the reasonableness of their answer relative to the factors (e.g., ask if 56 is a reasonable product of 70 and 8).

Student Task Statement

For each of the following products, choose the best estimate of its value. Be prepared to explain your reasoning.

1. $(6.8) \cdot (2.3)$

- 1.40
- 14
- 140

2. $74 \cdot (8.1)$

- 5.6
- 56
- 560

3. $166 \cdot (0.09)$

- 1.66
- 16.6
- 166

4. $(3.4) \cdot (1.9)$

- 6.5
- 65
- 650

Student Response

1. 14. Possible strategy: Round 6.8 to 7 and 2.3 to 2, and multiply. $7 \cdot 2 = 14$
2. 560. Possible strategy: Round 74 to 70 and 8.1 to 8, and multiply. $70 \cdot 8 = 560$
3. 16.6. Possible strategy: Round 0.09 to 0.1, and multiply. $166 \cdot (0.1) = 16.6$
4. 6.5. Possible strategy: Round 3.4 to 3 and 1.9 to 2, and multiply. $3 \cdot 2 = 6$, and 6.5 is closest to 6.

Activity Synthesis

Discuss one problem at a time. Ask students to share their response and reasoning. Record and display student explanations for all to see. If not mentioned by students in their explanations, ask if or how the given factors impacted how they estimated. To involve more students in the conversation, consider asking:

- “Who can restate ___’s reasoning in a different way?”
- “Does anyone want to add on to ____’s strategy?”
- “Do you agree or disagree? Why?” If there is time, ask students to solve the final problem with a partner. Encourage them to solve it mentally first and then check with pencil and paper if necessary.

7.2 Connecting Area Diagrams to Calculations with Whole Numbers

Optional: 20 minutes (there is a digital version of this activity)

In this activity, students review two numerical methods for multiplication learned in previous grades and use them to calculate products of whole numbers. Students have had a chance to revisit area diagrams in the past couple of activities. Here they make explicit connections between numerical calculations and area diagrams. As in previous activities, place value plays a key role in how a rectangle can be partitioned to facilitate multiplication.

As students discuss and work, notice the ways they describe the correspondences between numerical calculations and the numbers in the area diagrams. Identify students who can clearly articulate their reasoning so they can share later.

Building On

- 4.NBT.B.5

Launch

Arrange students in groups of 2. Give groups 3–5 minutes to discuss and answer the first set of questions. Follow with a brief whole-class discussion. Select a few students to share their responses to the first set of questions. Ask students why factors are decomposed by place value (e.g., 20 and 4), as opposed to decomposing into any two numbers (e.g., 13 and 11)? (It is easier to multiply two numbers if there is only 1 non-zero digit in each.)

Give groups another 3–5 minutes to discuss and answer the second set of questions. Follow with a brief whole-class discussion. Highlight the relationship between the blue numbers in the calculations and the partial areas in the diagram. Discuss:

- The numbers in blue—in the calculations and area diagrams—are called “partial products.” Why might that be? (They represent products of parts of the factors.)

- How are the partial products in Calculation A different from those in Calculation B? (Calculation A lists the product of any two base-ten digits separately. Calculation B groups them.) How are they similar? (They both lead to the same final product.)

Next, give students a few minutes of quiet time to complete the remaining set of questions.

Students using the digital activity should complete the written work first, and then check their work using the applet. Encourage them to explore other multiplication expressions or find other products to deepen their understanding of the area diagram.

Access for Students with Disabilities

Representation: Internalize Comprehension. Demonstrate and encourage students to use color coding and annotations to highlight connections between representations in a problem. For example, use color coding to highlight connections between the partial products in the calculations and area diagrams.

Supports accessibility for: Visual-spatial processing

Anticipated Misconceptions

If students have trouble seeing the correspondence between the diagram and the numbers in Calculation B, consider asking them to shade the areas 60 and 12 in one color and the areas 200 and 40 in another color.

Student Task Statement

1. Here are three ways of finding the area of a rectangle that is 24 units by 13 units.

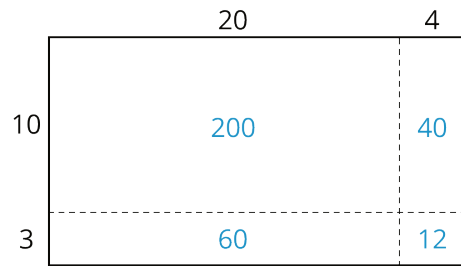


Diagram 1

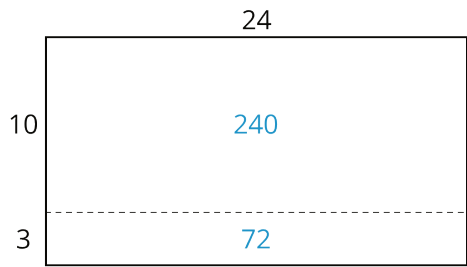


Diagram 2

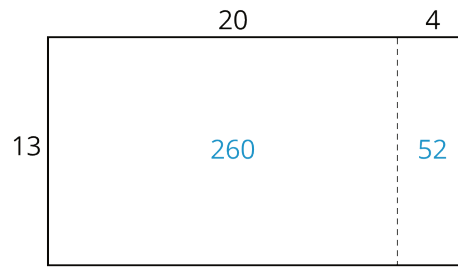


Diagram 3

- What do the diagrams have in common? How are they the same?
- How are the diagrams different?
- If you were to find the area of a rectangle that is 37 units by 19 units, which of the three ways of decomposing the rectangle would you use? Why?

2. You may be familiar with different ways to write multiplication calculations. Here are two ways to calculate 24 times 13.

$$\begin{array}{r}
 24 \\
 \times 13 \\
 \hline
 72 \\
 240 \\
 \hline
 312
 \end{array}$$

Calculation A

$$\begin{array}{r}
 24 \\
 \times 13 \\
 \hline
 240 \\
 + 72 \\
 \hline
 312
 \end{array}$$

Calculation B

- In Calculation A, how are each of the partial products obtained? For instance, where does the 12 come from?
- In Calculation B, how are the 72 and 240 obtained?
- Look at the diagrams in the first question. Which diagram corresponds to Calculation A? Which one corresponds to Calculation B?

d. How are the partial products in Calculation A and the 72 and 240 in Calculation B related to the numbers in the diagrams?

3. Use the two following methods to find the product of 18 and 14.

◦ Calculate numerically.

$$\begin{array}{r} 18 \\ \times 14 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

◦ Here is a rectangle that is 18 units by 14 units. Find its area, in square units, by decomposing it. Show your reasoning.



4. Compare the values of $18 \cdot 14$ that you obtained using the two methods. If they are not the same, check your work.

Student Response

1. Answers vary. Sample responses:

- Similarities: They show the same rectangle with the same area. The sum of all the partial products is the same in all cases.
- Differences: Some side lengths are broken up by place value, others are not. Some have two sub-rectangles, others have four sub-rectangles.
- I would use the method as in Diagram 1. I would break both numbers into tens and ones because it is easier to multiply tens by tens and ones by ones. If I broke up only one number into tens and ones; the other number is still not friendly enough to multiply quickly.

2. Answers vary. Sample responses:

- In Calculation A, 12 is $3 \cdot 4$, 60 is $3 \cdot 20$, 40 is $10 \cdot 4$, and 200 is $10 \cdot 20$.
- In Calculation B, 72 is $12 + 60$, and 240 is $40 + 200$. We can also see 72 as $3 \cdot 24$ and 240 as $10 \cdot 24$.
- Calculation A corresponds to Diagram 1. Calculation B corresponds to Diagram 2.

d. Diagram 1 shows 4 sub-rectangles; their areas are the partial products in the calculation: 12, 60, 40, 200. This makes sense because the side lengths of those rectangles are the numbers multiplied to get the partial products. Diagram 2 shows 2 sub-rectangles; their areas are the partial products of 72 and 240. The area of the bottom rectangle is the sum of $12 + 60$, and the area of the top rectangle is the sum of $40 + 200$.

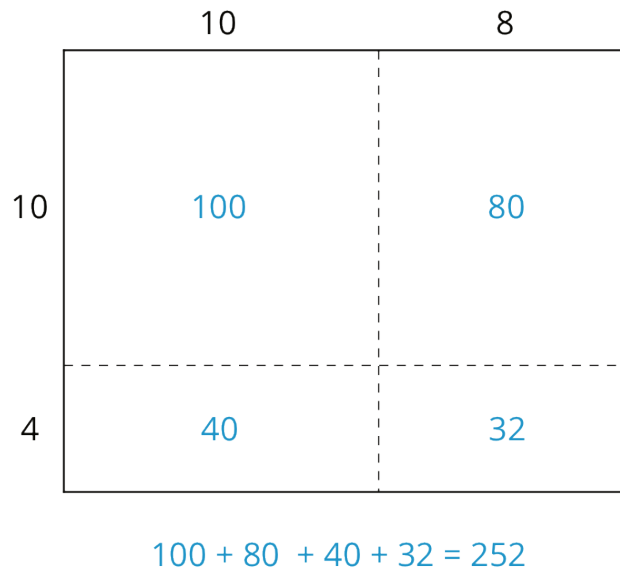
3. a.

$$\begin{array}{r}
 \\
 x \\
 \hline
 \\
 + \\
 \hline

 \end{array}
 \qquad
 \begin{array}{r}
 \\
 x \\
 \hline
 \\
 + \\
 \hline

 \end{array}$$

b.



4. No response required.

Activity Synthesis

Conclude with a whole-class discussion that focuses on connecting the numbers in Calculation B to the multiplication algorithm students learned in grade 5. Discuss:

- Calculation B shows the multiplication algorithm we can use to multiply 24 and 13 even without an area diagram. What calculation would give us the 72? What about the 240? (The two numbers in blue come from multiplying each digit of the second factor—starting from the ones place—by the first factor. The 72 is the product of 3 and 24. The 240 is the product of 10 and 24, or the 1 in the tens place and the 24.)

- There is a variation to Calculation B in which the zero in the ones place is not written (as shown), but the result is the same. Why might it be fine to write “24” without the zero at the end? (The 24 is understood to mean “24 tens” because it is written with 4 in the tens place.)

$$\begin{array}{r}
 24 \\
 \times 13 \\
 \hline
 72 \\
 + 24 \\
 \hline
 312
 \end{array}$$

Also consider exploring other multiplication scenarios with this digital applet: <https://ggbm.at/K9B6Eg4H>.

7.3 Connecting Area Diagrams to Calculations with Decimals

20 minutes (there is a digital version of this activity)

This activity extends the previous optional activity to products of decimals. It opens with a slight variant of the product $24 \cdot 13$, namely $(2.4) \cdot (1.3)$. The side lengths of the area diagrams are multiplied by 0.1, but the reasoning involved is unchanged. While students can find the product using any of the previously developed pathways—i.e., multiplying the factors by powers of 0.1 or $\frac{1}{10}$, or by using fractions—the focus here is on using partial products and connecting them to the multiplication algorithm. In the next lesson, students will generalize the process and use the algorithm to compute products of other decimals.

Recognition and use of structure (MP7) are once again important here. The use of the same non-zero digits in the problems also gives students a chance to see regularity in the reasoning and to focus on how the decimal point affects the calculation (MP8).

Addressing

- 6.NS.B.3

Instructional Routines

- MLR7: Compare and Connect

Launch

Arrange students in groups of 2. Give students 1–2 minutes of quiet think time for the first problem. Pause for a brief whole-class discussion, making sure all students label each region correctly. Explain that the diagram is not to scale, and that when drawing an area diagram, it is fine to estimate appropriate side lengths.

Have partners analyze the calculations in the second question. Monitor student discussions to check for understanding. If necessary, pause to have a whole-class discussion on the interpretation of these calculations. Then give students 7–8 minutes of quiet time to complete the remaining questions. Follow up with a whole-class discussion to emphasize how partial area products relate to the calculations.

Students with access to the digital materials can also work in groups of 2. When using the applet, students adjust the values by moving the dots on the ends of the segments to match the calculation. After giving students 3–4 minutes to log-in and complete the first problem, pause to discuss, making sure all students label each region correctly. Then they should also use the applet to check their calculations. Explain that diagrams may not be to scale, and that when drawing an area diagram, it is fine to estimate appropriate side lengths.

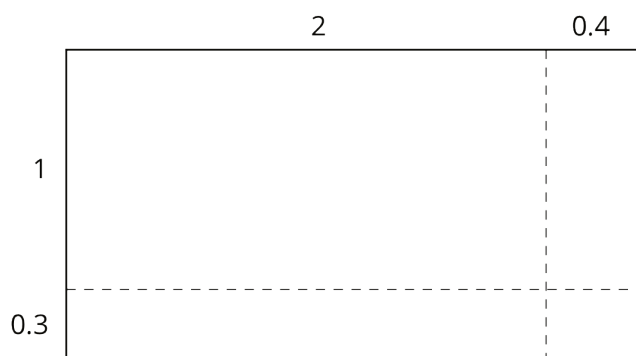
Access for Students with Disabilities

Representation: Internalize Comprehension. Demonstrate and encourage students to use color coding and annotations to highlight connections between representations in a problem. For example, use color coding to highlight connections between the partial products in the calculations and area diagrams.

Supports accessibility for: Visual-spatial processing

Student Task Statement

1. You can use area diagrams to represent products of decimals. Here is an area diagram that represents $(2.4) \cdot (1.3)$.



- Find the region that represents $(0.4) \cdot (0.3)$. Label it with its area of 0.12.
- Label the other regions with their areas.
- Find the value of $(2.4) \cdot (1.3)$. Show your reasoning.

2. Here are two ways of calculating $(2.4) \cdot (1.3)$.

		2.4		
×		1.3		
<hr/>				
		0.12	}	
		0.6		}
		0.4		
+		2	}	
<hr/>				
		3.12		

		2.4	
×		1.3	
<hr/>			
		0.72	
+		2.4	
<hr/>			
		3.12	

Calculation A

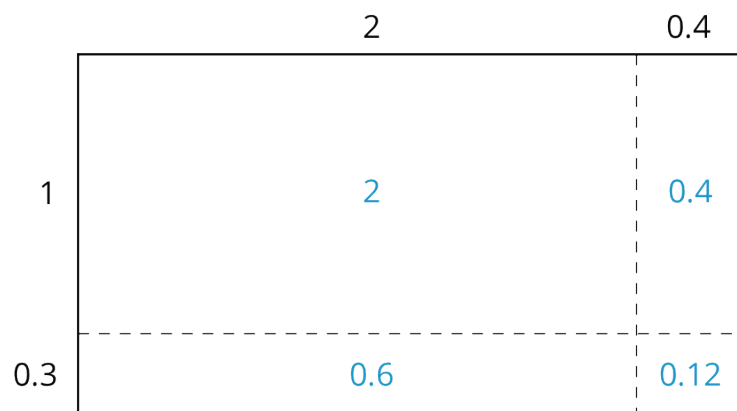
Calculation B

Analyze the calculations and discuss these questions with a partner:

- In Calculation A, where does the 0.12 and other partial products come from?
 - In Calculation B, where do the 0.72 and 2.4 come from?
 - In each calculation, why are the numbers below the horizontal line aligned vertically the way they are?
3. Find the product of $(3.1) \cdot (1.5)$ by drawing and labeling an area diagram. Show your reasoning.
 4. Show how to calculate $(3.1) \cdot (1.5)$ using numbers without a diagram. Be prepared to explain your reasoning. If you are stuck, use the examples in a previous question to help you.

Student Response

1. a. See next part for a completely labeled rectangle.
- b.



- c. The area of the rectangle is the sum of the sub-rectangles, which is 3.12:
 $2 + 0.4 + 0.6 + 0.12 = 3.12$.
2. a. In Calculation A:

■ $0.12 = (0.4) \cdot (0.3)$

■ $0.6 = 2 \cdot (0.3)$

■ $0.4 = (0.4) \cdot 1$

■ $2 = 2 \cdot 1$

In Calculation B: $0.72 = (0.3) \cdot (2.4)$ and $2.4 = 1 \cdot (2.4)$.

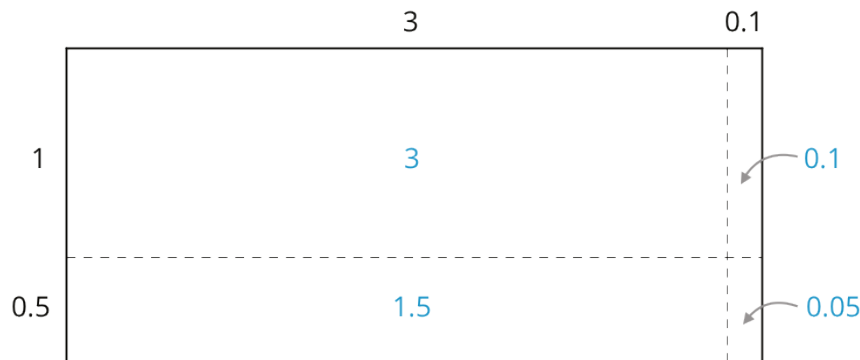
b. Sample reasonings:

■ The numbers are lined up so that digits in the same place value are aligned (for example, the 1 in 0.12, the 6 in 0.6, and the 4 in 0.4 are all in the tenths place).

■ The numbers are lined up this way so that like base-ten units can be easily added.

3. The sum of the sub-rectangles is 4.65, so that is the value of the product $(3.1) \cdot (1.5)$.

$3 + 0.1 + 1.5 + 0.05 = 4.65$.



4.

$$\begin{array}{r}
 3.1 \\
 \times 1.5 \\
 \hline
 0.05 \\
 1.5 \\
 0.1 \\
 + 3 \\
 \hline
 4.65
 \end{array}$$

Are You Ready for More?

How many hectares is the property of your school? How many morgens is that?

Student Response

Answers vary.

Activity Synthesis

To highlight the role of place value in multiplication, discuss the following questions:

- How does the diagram for the product $(2.4) \cdot (1.3)$ compare to that for $24 \cdot 13$? (They are the same; the only difference is that the decimal side lengths—the factors—are one-tenth of the whole-number ones.)
- How are the two calculations similar? How are they different? (There are no decimals in the partial products of $24 \cdot 13$. There are 0's at the end of the numbers in the calculation for $24 \cdot 13$ but not in the other calculation. The non-zero numbers are the same in the two calculations.)

$$\begin{array}{r} \phantom{} 2.4 \\ \times \phantom{} 1.3 \\ \hline \phantom{} 0.12 \\ \phantom{} 0.6 \\ \phantom{} 0.4 \\ + \phantom{} 2 \\ \hline 3.12 \end{array}$$
$$\begin{array}{r} \phantom{} 24 \\ \times \phantom{} 13 \\ \hline \phantom{} 12 \\ \phantom{} 60 \\ \phantom{} 40 \\ + \phantom{} 200 \\ \hline 312 \end{array}$$

Prompt students to look at the close relationship between the partial-product calculations and the technique of using fractions to find products of decimals. Students previously saw that $(2.4) \cdot (1.3) = (24 \cdot \frac{1}{10}) \cdot (13 \cdot \frac{1}{10}) = (24 \cdot 13) \cdot (\frac{1}{10} \cdot \frac{1}{10}) = 312 \cdot \frac{1}{100} = 3.12$.

The two partial-product calculations, presented side-by-side, validate the previous reasoning. The calculation on the right shows the whole-number product of 24 and 13. The one on the left shows that when each decimal factor is one-tenth of the whole-number factor, the decimal product is one hundredth of the whole-number product, so the decimal point moves two places to the left.

Access for English Language Learners

Representing, Conversing: MLR7 Compare and Connect. Use this routine to help students make sense of each strategy. Invite students to create a visual display that clearly shows how they calculated $(3.1) \cdot (1.5)$, with and without a diagram. Students should consider how to display their calculations so that another student can interpret them. Some students may wish to add notes or details to their display to help communicate their thinking. Arrange students in groups of 2, and provide 2–3 minutes of quiet think time for students to read and interpret each other's work. Invite students to look for what is the same and what is different about their approaches, and to identify how 0.1 is represented in each method. This will support student understanding of decimal multiplication and strengthen their use of mathematical language.

Design Principle(s): Support sense-making; Maximize meta-awareness

7.4 Using the Partial Products Method

Optional: 10 minutes

This activity continues using partial products and area diagrams to compute products of decimals and connect area diagrams with vertical calculations. In these problems, the side lengths and areas of the rectangle are left blank. Students fill in these fields by decomposing the factors by place value and multiplying them. Like many of the activities in this unit, the work involves understanding the structure of the base-ten system used in multiplication calculations (MP7) and making sense of it from arithmetic and geometric perspectives.

Students also make another key connection about several previously developed ideas here. They see that we can write the non-zero digits of decimal factors as whole numbers, use vertical calculations to multiply them, and then attend to the decimal point in the product afterwards. In other words, they notice the algorithm for multiplication can streamline the reasoning processes they have used up to this point.

Addressing

- 6.NS.B.3

Launch

Arrange students in groups of 2. Give groups 1–2 minutes to make sense of the first set of questions and area diagram. Listen to their discussions to make sure they understand how to label the appropriate side lengths. If needed, pause the class and have a student or a group that correctly decomposed the side lengths by place value share their reasoning.

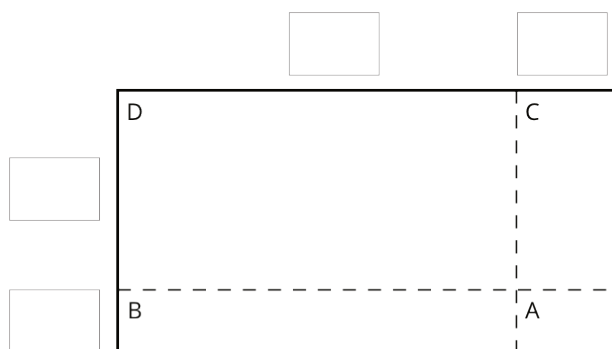
Give students 5 minutes of quiet work time for the rest of the task. Follow with a whole-class discussion.

Anticipated Misconceptions

If students label side lengths with numbers that are not single-digit multiples of powers of ten, remind them to work with base-ten units as practiced in the previous lesson. Provide them with one label for a length and see if they can then find the other sections.

Student Task Statement

- Label the area diagram to represent $(2.5) \cdot (1.2)$ and to find that product.



- Decompose each number into its base-ten units (ones, tenths, etc.) and write them in the boxes on each side of the rectangle.
- Label Regions A, B, C, and D with their areas. Show your reasoning.
- Find the product that the area diagram represents. Show your reasoning.

- Here are two ways to calculate $(2.5) \cdot (1.2)$. Each number with a box gives the area of one or more regions in the area diagram.

$ \begin{array}{r} 2.5 \\ \times 1.2 \\ \hline 0.1 \\ 0.4 \\ 0.5 \\ + 2.0 \\ \hline 3.00 \end{array} $	<table style="border: none;"> <tr><td style="border: 1px solid black; width: 30px; height: 20px;"></td></tr> <tr><td style="border: 1px solid black; width: 30px; height: 20px;"></td></tr> <tr><td style="border: 1px solid black; width: 30px; height: 20px;"></td></tr> <tr><td style="border: 1px solid black; width: 30px; height: 20px;"></td></tr> </table>				
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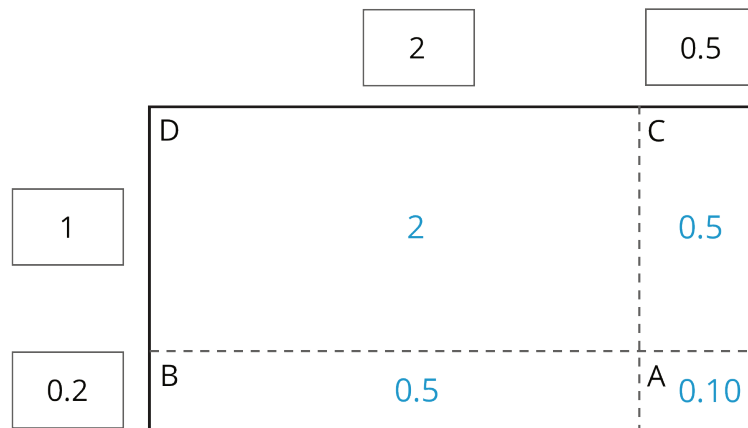
Calculation A

Calculation B

- In the boxes next to each number, write the letter(s) of the corresponding region(s).
- In Calculation B, which two numbers are being multiplied to obtain 0.5? Which numbers are being multiplied to obtain 2.5?

Student Response

1. a.



b. A: $(0.5) \cdot (0.2) = 0.1$, B: $(2) \cdot (0.2) = 0.4$, C: $(0.5) \cdot 1 = 0.5$,
D: $2 \cdot 1 = 2$

c. $0.1 + 0.4 + 0.5 + 2 = 3$, so $(2.5) \cdot (1.2) = 3$

2. a.

$\begin{array}{r} 2.5 \\ \times 1.2 \\ \hline 0.10 \\ 0.4 \\ 0.5 \\ + 2.0 \\ \hline 3.00 \end{array}$	<table border="1" style="border-collapse: collapse; text-align: center;"> <tr><td>A</td></tr> <tr><td>B</td></tr> <tr><td>C</td></tr> <tr><td>D</td></tr> </table>	A	B	C	D
A					
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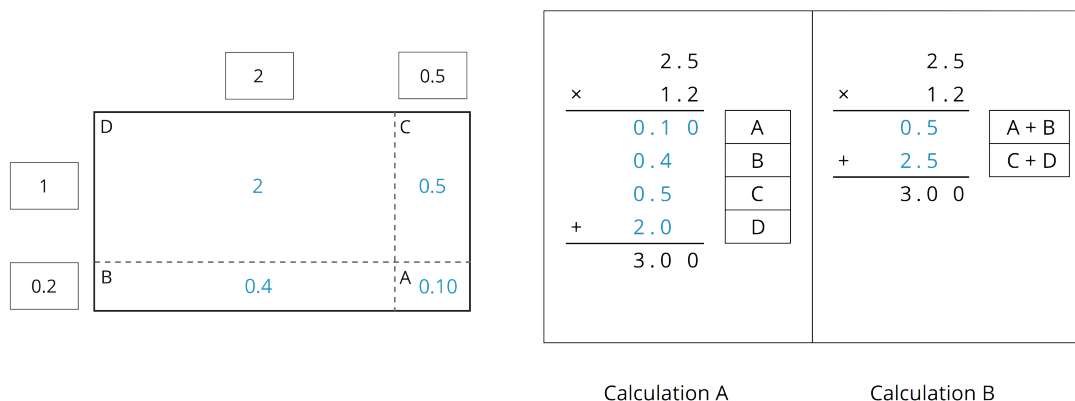
Calculation A

Calculation B

b. $0.5 = (0.2) \cdot (2.5)$ and $2.5 = (1.0) \cdot (2.5)$

Activity Synthesis

Display the solution shown here for all to see.



Select a few students to explain how they determined which factor belongs to which side of the rectangle and how they found each partial area. Then, ask how each blue number in the calculations, especially Calculation B, is obtained. If not mentioned in students' explanations, emphasize that the blue 0.5, represented by the area of A + B in the diagram, is the product of 0.2 and 2.5. To highlight this connection, consider shading or coloring the corresponding areas in the diagram and circling these values in the calculations. Likewise, the blue 2.5, represented by the area of C + D in the diagram, is the product of 1 and 2.5 in the calculation.

Lesson Synthesis

We can use the area of a rectangle to represent products of decimals, just as we have done so with whole numbers. The calculations of partial products and their sum can also be performed numerically and without a diagram. The numbers in a vertical calculation correspond closely to the partial areas in the diagram.

- How can a rectangle help us represent the product of two numbers? (The sides of a rectangle can represent the factors, and the area of the rectangle represents the product.)
- How do we use a rectangle to help us find the product of two numbers? (We can decompose each factor by place value—tens, ones, tenths, hundredths, etc., partition the rectangle into regions, and find the areas of these regions. The sum of these partial areas is the product of the two numbers. This method can be used with whole numbers and decimals.)
- How are the numbers in vertical calculations related to those in area diagrams? (The numbers in vertical calculations reflect the partial areas in diagram. These partial areas are added to find the product of the two factors.)

7.5 Find the Product

Cool Down: 5 minutes

Addressing

- 6.NS.B.3

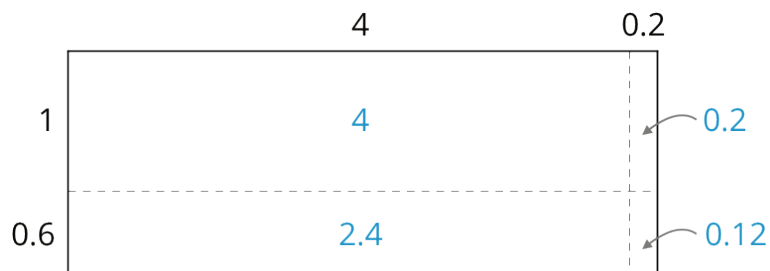
Student Task Statement

Find $(4.2) \cdot (1.6)$ by drawing an area diagram or using another method. Show your reasoning.

Student Response

The big rectangle represents 6.72 because

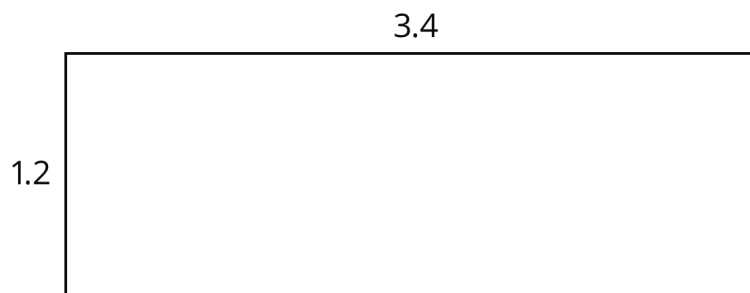
$$(4 \cdot 1) + (0.2 \cdot 1) + (4 \cdot 0.6) + (0.2 \cdot 0.6) = 4 + 0.2 + 2.4 + 0.12 = 6.72.$$



Student Lesson Summary

Suppose that we want to calculate the product of two numbers that are written in base ten. To explain how, we can use what we know about base-ten numbers and areas of rectangles.

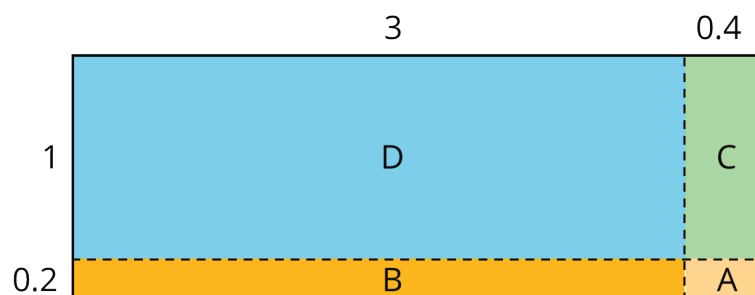
Here is a diagram of a rectangle with side lengths 3.4 units and 1.2 units.



Its area, in square units, is the product

$$(3.4) \cdot (1.2)$$

To calculate this product and find the area of the rectangle, we can decompose each side length into its base-ten units, $3.4 = 3 + 0.4$ and $1.2 = 1 + 0.2$, decomposing the rectangle into four smaller sub-rectangles.



We can rewrite the product and expand it twice:

$$\begin{aligned}
 (3.4) \cdot (1.2) &= (3 + 0.4) \cdot (1 + 0.2) \\
 &= (3 + 0.4) \cdot 1 + (3 + 0.4) \cdot 0.2 \\
 &= 3 \cdot 1 + 3 \cdot (0.2) + (0.4) \cdot 1 + (0.4) \cdot (0.2)
 \end{aligned}$$

In the last expression, each of the four terms is called a partial product. Each partial product gives the area of a sub-rectangle in the diagram. The sum of the four partial products gives the area of the entire rectangle.

We can show the horizontal calculations above as two vertical calculations.

	3.4	
×	1.2	
	1	
	0.0 8	A
	0.6	B
	0.4	C
+	3	D
	4.0 8	

	3.4			
×	1.2			
	1			
	0.6 8	A	+	B
+	3.4	C	+	D
	4.0 8			

The calculation on the left is an example of the partial products method. It shows the values of each partial product and the letter of the corresponding sub-rectangle. Each partial product gives an area:

- A is 0.2 unit by 0.4 unit, so its area is 0.08 square unit.
- B is 3 units by 0.2 unit, so its area is 0.6 square unit.
- C is 0.4 unit by 1 unit, so its area is 0.4 square unit.
- D is 3 units by 1 unit, so its area is 3 square units.
- The sum of the partial products is $0.08 + 0.6 + 0.4 + 3$, so the area of the rectangle is 4.08 square units.

The calculation on the right shows the values of two products. Each value gives a combined area of two sub-rectangles:

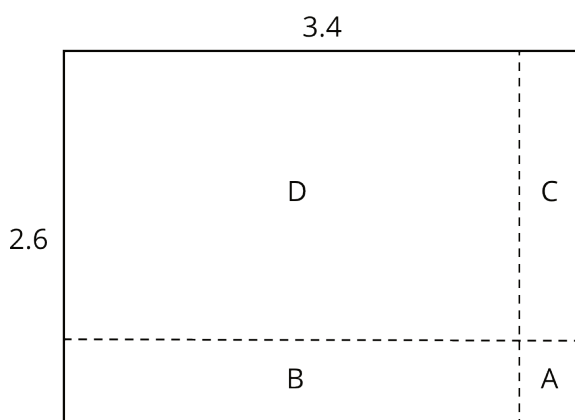
- The combined regions of A and B have an area of 0.68 square units; 0.68 is the value of $(3 + 0.4) \cdot 0.2$.
- The combined regions of C and D have an area of 3.4 square units; 3.4 is the value of $(3 + 0.4) \cdot 1$.
- The sum of the values of two products is $0.68 + 3.4$, so the area of the rectangle is 4.08 square units.

Lesson 7 Practice Problems

Problem 1

Statement

Here is a rectangle that has been partitioned into four smaller rectangles.



For each expression, choose the sub-rectangle whose area, in square units, matches the expression.

- $3 \cdot (0.6)$
- $(0.4) \cdot 2$
- $(0.4) \cdot (0.6)$
- $3 \cdot 2$

Solution

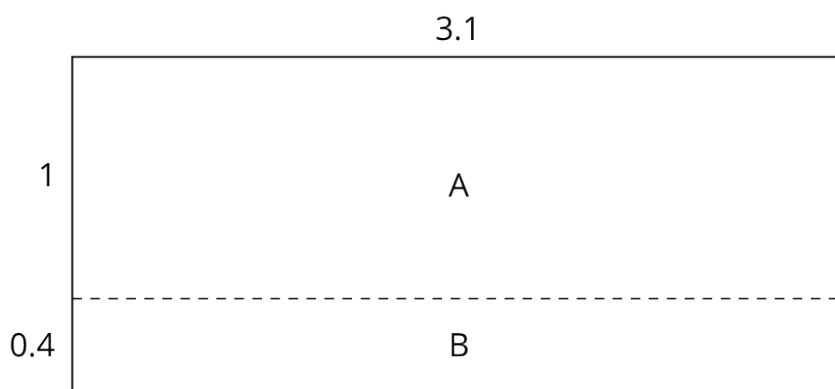
- B
- C
- A

d. D

Problem 2

Statement

Here is an area diagram that represents $(3.1) \cdot (1.4)$.



a. Find the areas of sub-rectangles A and B.

b. What is the area of the 3.1 by 1.4 rectangle?

Solution

- Rectangle A: 3.1 square units, Rectangle B: 1.24 square units
- 4.34 square units ($3.1 + 1.24 = 4.34$)

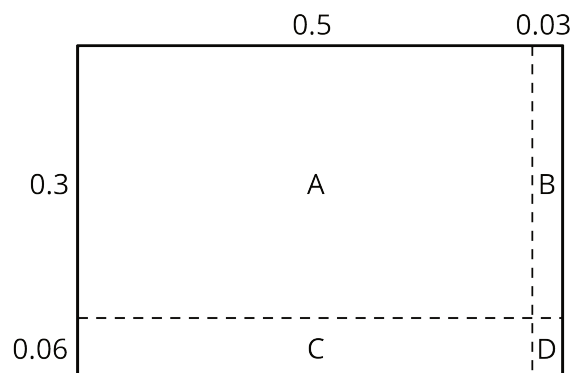
Problem 3

Statement

Draw an area diagram to find $(0.36) \cdot (0.53)$. Label and organize your work so that it can be followed by others.

Solution

0.1908. Sample diagram and reasoning:



- Area of A is $(0.5)(0.3) = 0.15$.

- Area of B is $(0.03)(0.3) = 0.009$.
- Area of C is $(0.5)(0.06) = 0.03$.
- Area of D is $(0.03)(0.06) = 0.0018$.
- The area of the rectangle, in square units, is $0.15 + 0.009 + 0.03 + 0.0018 = 0.1908$.

Problem 4

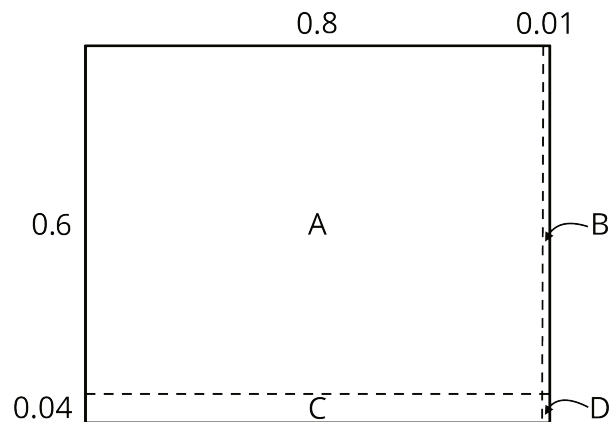
Statement

Find each product. Show your reasoning.

- $(2.5) \cdot (1.4)$
- $(0.64) \cdot (0.81)$

Solution

- 3.5. Sample reasoning: $2 \cdot (1.4) = 2.8$ and $(0.5) \cdot (1.4) = 0.7$. The product is $2.8 + 0.7$ or 3.5.
- 0.5184. Sample reasoning:



- Area of A is $(0.8)(0.6) = 0.48$.
- Area of B is $(0.01)(0.6) = 0.006$.
- Area of C is $(0.8)(0.04) = 0.032$.
- Area of D is $(0.01)(0.04) = 0.0004$.
- The area of the rectangle, in square units, is $0.48 + 0.006 + 0.032 + 0.0004 = 0.5184$.

Problem 5

Statement

Complete the calculations so that each shows the correct sum.

$$\begin{array}{r} 2.3 \square \\ + \square.64 \\ \hline 9.\square5 \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 2.3 \square \\ + \square.64 \\ \hline 9.\square2 \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 4.3 \square \\ + \square.15 \\ \hline 6.\square2 \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 1.5 \square \\ + \square.38 \\ \hline 1.\square4 \end{array}$$

Solution

$$\begin{array}{r} 2.3 \boxed{1} \\ + \boxed{7}.64 \\ \hline 9.\boxed{9}5 \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 2.3 \boxed{8} \\ + \boxed{6}.64 \\ \hline 9.\boxed{0}2 \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 4.3 \boxed{7} \\ + \boxed{2}.15 \\ \hline 6.\boxed{5}2 \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 1.5 \boxed{6} \\ + \boxed{0}.38 \\ \hline 1.\boxed{9}4 \end{array}$$

(From Unit 5, Lesson 3.)

Problem 6

Statement

Diego bought 12 mini muffins for \$4.20.

- a. At this rate, how much would Diego pay for 4 mini muffins?
- b. How many mini muffins could Diego buy with \$3.00? Explain or show your reasoning. If you get stuck, consider using the table.

number of mini muffins	price in dollars
12	4.20

Solution

- a. \$1.40.
- b. 8 mini muffins, which would cost \$2.80. He does not have enough money for 9 mini muffins, because that would cost \$3.15.

number of mini muffins	price in dollars
12	4.20
1	0.35
8	2.80
9	3.15

(From Unit 2, Lesson 12.)