Problem Solving: Multiple-Step Problems

To solve a multiple-step problem, you may need to find the answer to a hidden question first. Then you can use that answer to solve the problem.

Sandra has $22 to spend on school supplies. She buys a backpack and spends the rest of her money on notebooks. How many notebooks does she buy?

What do you know?

• Sandra has $22 and spends $10 on a backpack.

• Sandra has $12 left to spend on notebooks that cost $3 each.

What do you need to do?

Subtract 10 from 22.

22 – 10 = 12

Divide 12 by 3.

12 ÷ 3 = 4

Sandra buys 4 notebooks.

Solve.

1. There are 5 players on a basketball team. All but 2 players scored 6 points each. The other two players scored the same number of points. The team scored a total of 34 points. How many points did the other two players each score?

HINT: Hidden Question—How many points were scored in all by the players who scored 6 points each?

2. There are 45 students taking a trip to the museum. They form 3 groups with 7 students each. The rest of the groups have 6 students each. How many groups of 6 are there?

3. Juan has $20 to spend. He wants to spend $3 each day for 5 days and $4 on the weekend. Does he have enough money? If so, how much will he have left?