Remainders: What Do You Do with the Extras?

Math Words

remainder

When you are asked to solve division problems in context, it is important to consider the remainder to correctly answer the question asked. Here are some different story problem contexts for the division problem $186 \div 12$.

186 people are taking a trip. One van holds 12 people. How many vans do they need?

15 vans will hold 15×12 or 180 people, but the other 6 people still need a ride. They need 1 more van.

Answer: They need 16 vans.

There are 186 pencils and 12 students. A teacher wants to give the same number of pencils to each student. How many pencils will each student get?

It does not make sense to give students half a pencil, so the teacher can keep the remaining 6 pencils.

Answer: Each student will get 15 pencils.

Twelve friends earned \$186 by washing cars. They want to share the money equally. How much money should each person get?

Dollars can be split up into smaller amounts. Each person can get \$15. The remaining \$6 can be divided evenly so that every person gets another 50¢.

Answer: Each person gets \$15.50.

Twelve people are going to share 186 crackers evenly. How many crackers does each person get?

Each person gets 15 crackers. Then the last 6 crackers can be split in half. Each person gets another half cracker.

Answer: Each person gets $15\frac{1}{2}$ crackers.



Write and solve a story problem for 153 ÷ 13.

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