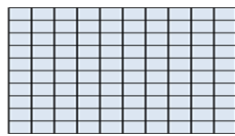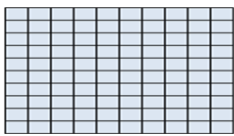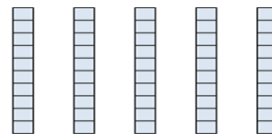# Helping your child with division

When your child is in fourth class he/she will learn to do short division as sharing. This tip sheet shows you how your child might divide the number 257 by 3.

- Let's pretend that we want to share 257 sweets equally between 3 children. Your child might write this as: 3$\overline{)257}$

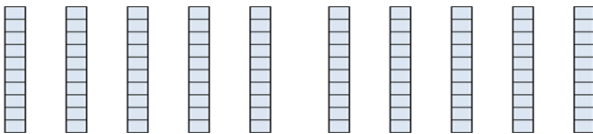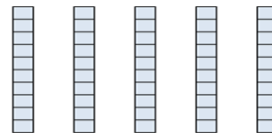2 hundreds · · · · · · 5 tens · · · 7 units

- First I will try to share the hundreds between the children. As I cannot share 2 hundreds *equally* between 3 children, I will exchange the 2 hundreds for 20 tens.
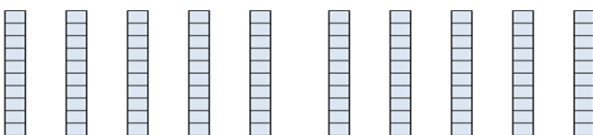
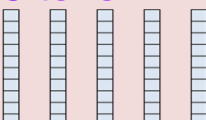20 tens · · · · · · 5 tens · · · 7 units

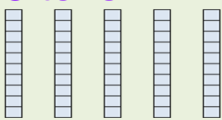- In total I now have 25 tens to share. 3$\overline{)2^{2}57}$
- I share the 25 tens equally among the 3 children. Each child gets 8 tens each. (That uses up 24 of my tens). There is one ten left over. 3$\overline{)2^{2}57}$
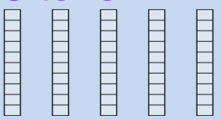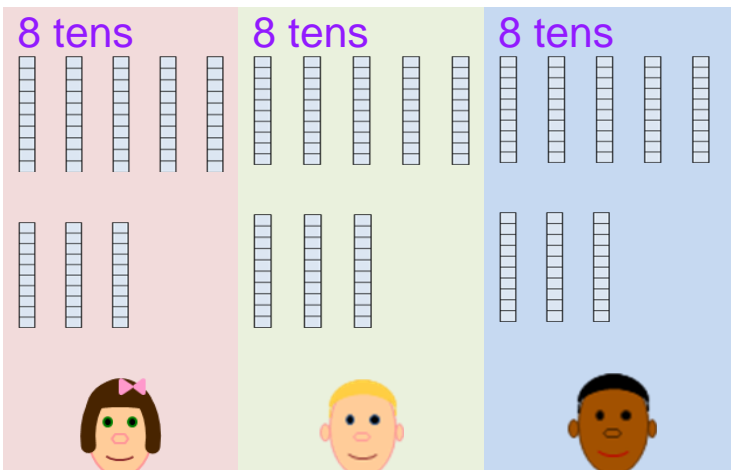 8

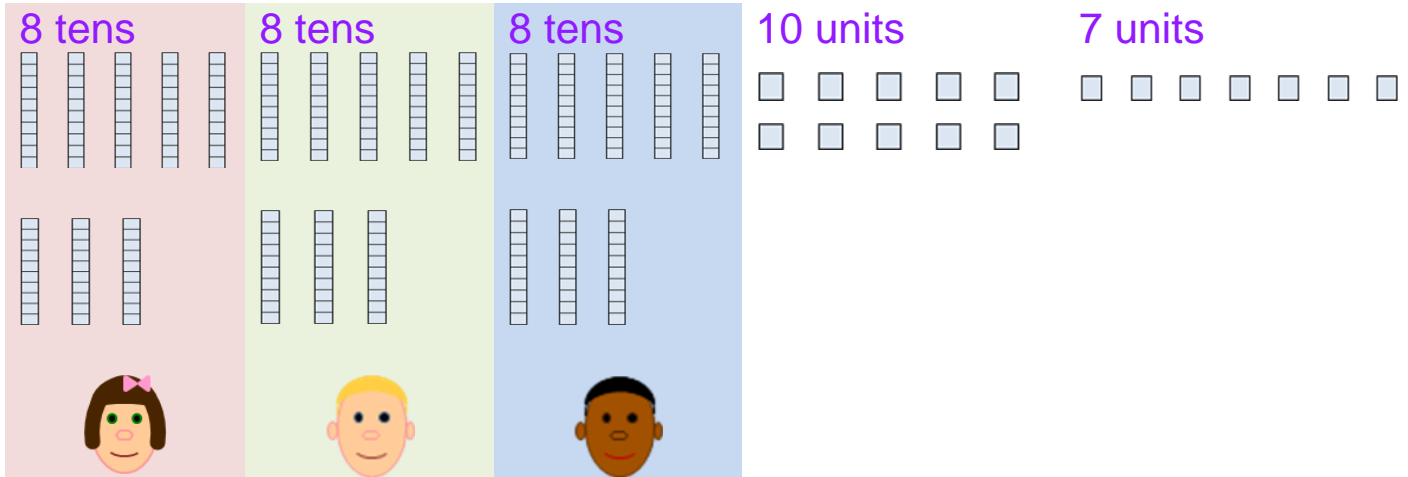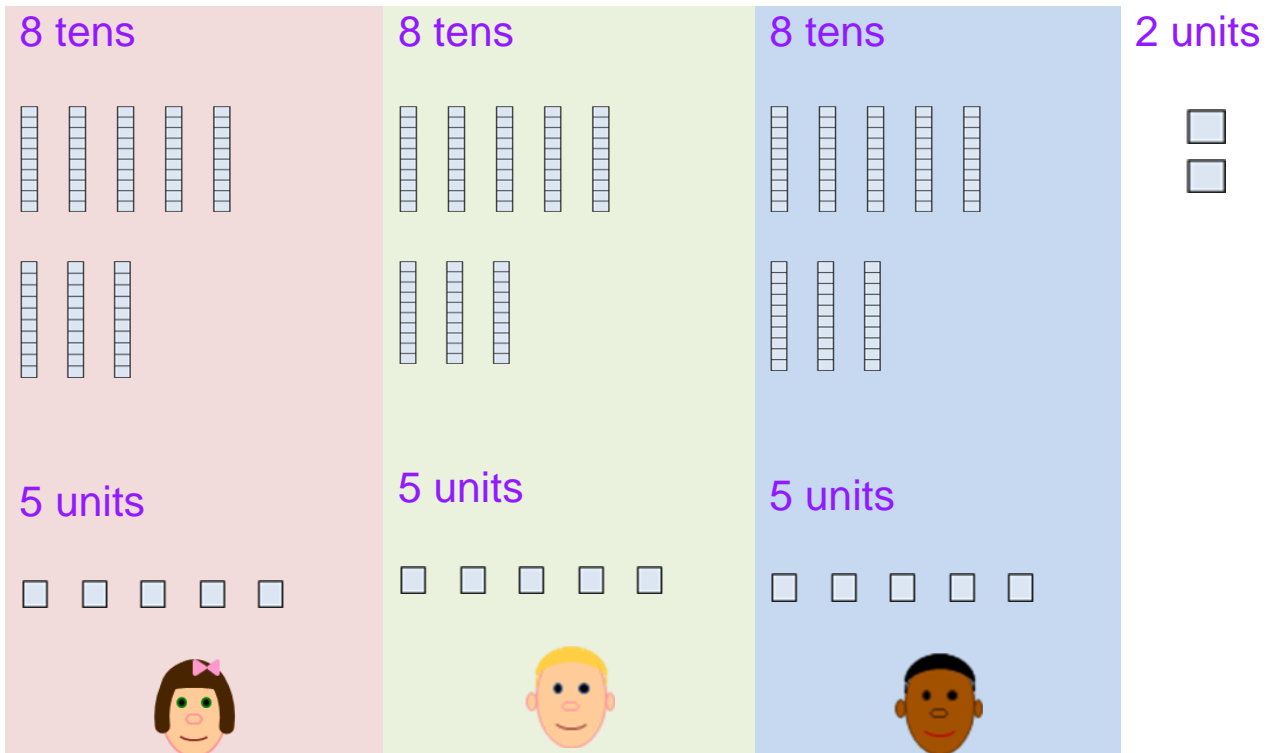8 tens · · · 8 tens · · · 8 tens · · · 1 ten · · · 7 units

• I can exchange the one remaining ten for 10 units. That gives me a total of 17 units that I now have to share. $3\overline{)2^2 5^1 7}$
8

8 tens	8 tens	8 tens	10 units	7 units

• If I share 17 units equally between the three children, each child gets 5 units each. (That uses up 15 of my units) and there are 2 units left over.

• Your child might write this as: $3\overline{)2^2 5^1 7}$
$8\,5$

8 tens	8 tens	8 tens	2 units

5 units   5 units   5 units

• If I share 257 sweets equally between 3 children, each child gets 85 sweets with 2 sweets left over. This is called a remainder of 2.

$$3\overline{)2^2 5^1 7}$$
$$8\,5 \quad R.\ 2$$