**Lower Elementary:**

*Question:* Olivia had an excellent fishing day. She caught 4 snappers, 6 mackerels, 1 grouper, and 1 soggy boot. She threw half the snappers and half the mackerels back into the ocean. How many fish did she take home?

*Answer:* 6

*Solution:* Olivia caught 4 snappers + 6 mackerels + 1 grouper = 11 fish. She threw back half of 4 = 2 snappers and half of 6 = 3 mackerels, 5 fish altogether. So, Olivia took home 11 – 5 = 6 fish.

**Upper Elementary:**

*Question:* Harvey goes to a theme park where tokens cost 75 cents. A roller coaster ride costs 2 tokens. A ride on the Ferris wheel costs 3 tokens. Harvey rides the roller coaster and the Ferris wheel 7 times each. How much did Harvey spend on rides?

*Answer:* $26.25

*Solution:* Two tokens for the roller coaster cost 75 cents x 2 = $1.50. Three tokens for the Ferris wheel cost 75 cents x 3 = $2.25. The total cost for 7 rides on the roller coaster cost $1.50 x 7 = $10.50, and 7 rides on the Ferris wheel cost $2.25 x 7 = $15.75. So, Harvey spent $10.50 + $15.75 = $26.25.

**Middle School:**

*Question:*  One out of every 250,000 alligators is born white. If there are an estimated 1,750,000 alligators in the state of Florida, how many of them are likely to be white?

*Answer:* 7

*Solution:* If there is one white alligator per group of 250,000 alligators, then we need to find how many groups of 250,000 alligators there are in Florida. Because 1,750,000 alligators divided into groups of 250,000 makes 7 groups, there are an estimated 7 white alligators in Florida.

**Algebra and Up:**

*Question:* It costs $20 to rent a jet ski, plus $1.50 for each hour of use, plus the cost of gas. James rents a jet ski for 2 hours. He uses 2 ½ litres of gas, which costs 89.9¢ per litre. Write an expression to find the total cost of the rental. How much did the jet ski rental cost altogether?

*Answer:* $25.25

*Solution:* To find the price of the rentals, we can use the expression $20 + $1.50t + $0.899L wherein t is the number of hours spent with the jet skis and L is the gallons of gas used. James rented 1 jet ski for 2 hours and used 2½ litres of gas, so he spent $20 + $1.50(2) + $0.899(2.5) = $25.25 after rounding.