

Step-by-Step Tape Diagram Lesson

Question: In a school, there are 250 students. The ratio of boys to girls is 3:2. What is the total number of boys in the school? What is the total number of girls in the school? Draw a Tape Diagram for a visual display of the problem.

Answer:

a) Start with what you know.

1. We know the total number of students is 250.
2. We know that for every 3 boys, there are 2 girls.

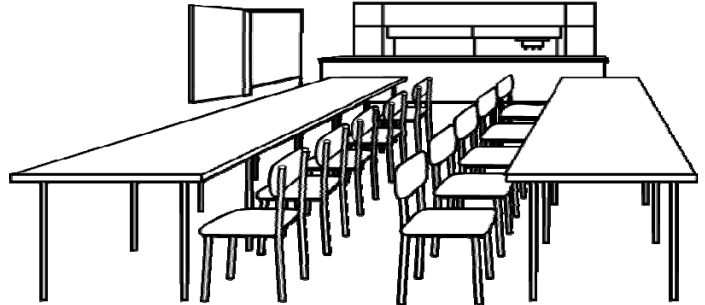
b) Start to draw your tape diagram for the ratio.

3 boys =

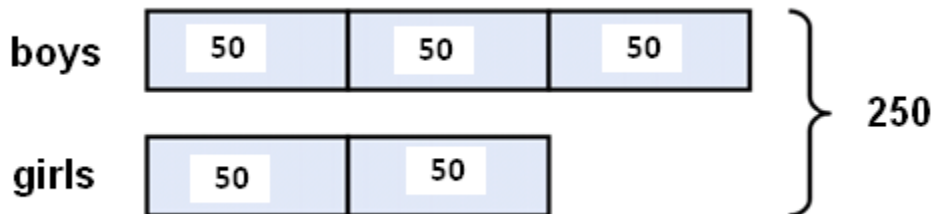
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2 girls =

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3. Combine the information to show the composition of the group. If the total number of students is equal to 250 and is composed of 5 groups, each group has 50 ($250/5$) students. The diagram will look like the following:



4. To find the total number of girls, add the segments $50 + 50 = 100$ girls.

5. To find the total number of boys, add the segments $50 + 50 + 50 = 150$ boys.

Answer: There are 150 boys and 100 girls in the school.

