

Proportion Word Problem Step-by-Step Lesson

Mikai walks her dog Rufus take regular walks together. Mikai and Rufus travel 5 miles every 8 days. Over the last 40 days how far have Mikai and Rufus walked?



Solution:

Start with what we know. We know that they walk 5 miles every 8 days. We can re-write this as: 5 miles = 8 days

We can easily create a proportion just by placing the proper units in the proportion:

$$\frac{5 \text{ miles}}{x} = \frac{8 \text{ days}}{40 \text{ days}}$$

To solve for x , we cross multiply:

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A diagram showing two arrows originating from the '5 miles' term in the numerator of the first fraction. One arrow points to the '8 days' term in the numerator of the second fraction, and the other points to the '40 days' term in the denominator of the second fraction. This illustrates the cross-multiplication process.

$$200 = 8x$$

$$\frac{200}{8} = x \quad \text{or} \quad x = 25 \text{ miles}$$