

# Saving for an Ipod

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## Annotation

Gracie solves this fraction problem by applying place value knowledge, division and multiplication facts. She is able to explain how she partitions and recombines a 2-digit number and how she calculates a fraction of an amount.

## Problem: Saving for an iPod

The teacher shows this problem to the student and reads it with her as required:

*Terry is saving for an iPod that costs \$129. He's saved two thirds of the amount. How much has he saved?*

## Student response

Gracie: \$86

Teacher: Tell me how you did that.

Gracie: First I thought about one third of 120. I thought of 120 like 12.  $12 \div 3$  is easy. It's 4. So  $120 \div 3$  is 10 times more. It's 40. 9 is good for dividing by 3 as well.  $3 \times 3$  is 9, so one third of 9 is 3. That means that one third of 129 is 40 and 3 which is 43. To find out what two thirds is I do 43 times 2, which is just doubling, and that's 86.

Teacher: What do you know that helped you?

Gracie: I know my tables and I know I can split numbers like the 129 into parts if I need to. For finding thirds I know that you divide by 3. But this was two thirds so I had to multiply it by 2.