

## Illustrative Mathematics

### 3.OA The Stamp Collection

Alignment 1: 3.OA.D.8

*Not yet tagged*

Masha had 120 stamps. First, she gave her sister half of the stamps and then she used three to mail letters. How many stamps does Masha have left?

---

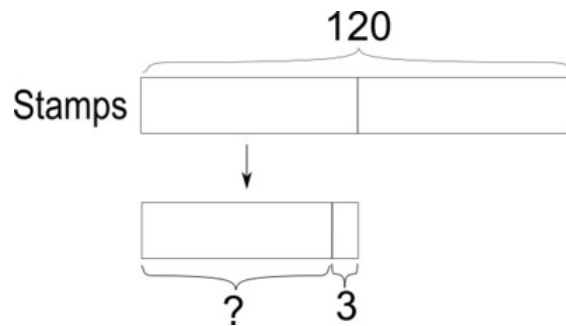
## Commentary

This task uses language, "half of the stamps," that students in Grade 5 will come to associate with multiplication by the fraction  $\frac{1}{2}$ . In Grade 3, many students will understand half of 120 to mean the number obtained by dividing 120 by 2. For students who are unfamiliar with this language the task provides a preparation for the later understanding that a fraction of a quantity is that fraction times the quantity.

---

Solution: Using a bar diagram

We can visualize the problem with a bar diagram:



$$2 \text{ units} = 120$$

$$1 \text{ unit} = 60$$

$$60 - 3 = 57$$

Masha had 57 stamps left.

Edit Tags



3.OA The Stamp Collection is licensed by Illustrative Mathematics under a [Creative Commons Attribution-NonCommercial-ShareAlike 3.0 Unported License](https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc-sa/3.0/)