

Name: _____

Getting Ready for a New School Year

Math Story by Claudette J. Young

James Cotter's mother is a third grade teacher. One August morning, she was going to school to set up her classroom for a new school year.

She looked at James and asked, "Would you like to help?" James smiled. He loved helping his mother set up her classroom.

When he walked in, James looked at the door to the classroom. There was a sign that read, "Welcome to Room 216." His mother's new class will have twelve students in it. There were two big, round tables. Each table had the same number of chairs and there were exactly enough chairs for his mother's class.



He helped her with the supplies for each child. In front of each chair he placed one coloring page that said, "Welcome Back to School!"

Right beside each coloring page, James placed one agenda book at each seat. James looked at his mother and asked, "Are these for writing down homework assignments?" His mother nodded.



PREVIEW

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n seat.
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st seat,
there were no glue sticks left.

James went back to the supply box to get pencils. James' mother said, "Each student gets two." He pulled out the pencils and counted them. There were only fifteen pencils. James said to his mother, "There aren't enough. You'll need to buy some more pencils too."

He thought about the missing items. He spied his school backpack on the floor by the desk. James opened his pack and began to look for what his mother needed.

He found enough pencils, scissors, and crayons. He put the items from his backpack on the tables. James said to his mother, "Now all of your students have exactly the right amount of school supplies. You won't have to go to the store."

James' mother answered, "How wonderful! My students have all of their supplies now, but I still have to go to the store." James looked confused. His mother then said, "Now I have to buy more school supplies for my son!"

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Use information from the story to answer the questions.
Show your work in the space to the right.

1. How many students will be seated at each table?

answer: _____

2. How many bookmarks did James place on the tables?

answer: _____

3. When James passed out the crayons, he didn't have enough. How many more crayons did James need?

4.



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5. How many pencils did James remove from his backpack for his mothers' class?

answer: _____

6. How many pairs of scissors did James remove from his backpack for his mother's class?

answer: _____

ANSWER KEY

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Use information from the story to answer the questions. Show your work in the space to the right.

1. How many students will be seated at each table?

2

3

4

5

6

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