

Grade 9 EQAO Sample Question for Families

Please see below a EQAO digital math question and answer that you can work on with your child.

Question

Mia calculates the pay she earns, P , in dollars, to make n birdhouses, according to this equation.

$$P = 24.5n + 15$$

What is Mia's pay for making 8 birdhouses?

- A. \$39.50
- B. \$181.00
- C. \$196.00
- D. \$211.00



Correct Answer

Mia calculates the pay she earns, P , in dollars, to make n birdhouses, according to this equation.

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Helpful Tips:

- **Tell the story of the equation** (e.g., $24.50n$ means \$24.50 for each bird house, multiplied by how many bird houses, 15 means the starting amount or initial value-\$15).
- **Substitution first, then follow order of operations.** This means replacing the variable (n) with a specific value (8), then multiplying and adding the constant (15).
- **Try asking:** What part depends on the number of bird houses? What part happens even if she makes zero bird houses? What if Zia made zero birdhouses?
- **When you see an equation, pause and build a real-life story for it before you calculate.** Think of examples like cell phone plans, babysitting jobs, or fundraising, and ask: What is the variable? What is being counted or changing? Is there a starting amount? A flat fee you pay (or earn) even when the number is 0? What is the rate? How much the total goes up for each 1 more (per hour, per item, per km, etc.)?