

The *Freshy Fresh Fruit Factory* collects fruits from around North and Central America, packages them, and ships them to customers throughout the world as holiday baskets; birthday, wedding and anniversary gifts; and as part of the very popular “Fruit of the Month Club.”

Consider the perfect variable to represent each fruit as we look at where they are grown. Apples are transported to *FFFF*’s Omaha, Nebraska, distribution center from New York and Washington State. Bananas arrive by rail from Honduras. Coconuts are shipped in from Hawaii. Grapefruits are brought in from Florida and California, while peaches arrive from Georgia and Texas.

Five different fruit-packs are available to order. The first consists of three apples, two bananas and two grapefruits. Fruit-pack number two includes a coconut and four bananas. The third option features six peaches, four apples and two grapefruits. The fourth is packed with eight peaches and five bananas. The fifth fruit-pack features a sample of all the fruits; six apples, four bananas, two coconuts, two grapefruits and eight peaches.

As a small gift shop owner in Raleigh, N.C., you are entitled to a discount when you purchase *Freshy Fresh Fruit-Packs* in bulk quantities. In fact, you have discovered you can make an even larger profit if you open the fruit-packs and sell the fruits individually.

Your latest shipment arrived Monday morning. You received a dozen of the first packs, 10 of the second, five of the third, six of the fourth, and 10 of the five-fruit sampler pack (pack number five).

List your variables for each fruit (keep in mind; you fired your last store manager for representing variables with capital letters):

Apples: _____ Bananas: _____ Coconuts: _____ Grapefruits: _____ Peaches: _____

Do “some sort of math” to determine how many of each fruit came in today’s shipment. When you finish this project, we will discuss the distributive property, as it is likely that you used this method without even knowing what it was called. List your totals for each fruit (numbers only, no algebraic term required this time):

Apples: _____ Bananas: _____ Coconuts: _____ Grapefruits: _____ Peaches: _____