7–7 **Problem-Solving Investigation:
Solve a Simpler Problem**

MAIN IDEA

• Solve problems by solving a simpler problem.

EXAMPLE

Solve. Use the *solve a simpler problem* strategy.

BAKE SALE **Elmwood Middle School received 620 contributions for its bake sale. If 40% of the contributions were cookies, how many cookies did the school receive?**

UNDERSTAND You know the school received [ ] contributions, and [ ] of them were cookies. You need to find the number of cookies the school received.

PLAN Solve a simpler problem by finding 10% of the number of contributions and then use the result to find 40% of the number of contributions.

SOLVE Since $10\% = \frac{10}{100}$ or $\frac{1}{10}$, 1 out of every 10 contributions was cookies.

$620 \div 10 =$ [ ]

Since there are four 10% in 40%, multiply 62 by 4. $62 \times 4 =$ [ ]

So, the school received [ ] cookies.

CHECK You know that $40\% = \frac{40}{100}$ or $\frac{2}{5}$. Since $\frac{2}{5}$ of 620 is 248, the answer is reasonable.

Check Your Progress **TALENT SHOW** A total of 310 people attended a talent show at Jefferson Middle School. If 70% of those who attended were adults, how many adults attended the talent show?