

## 6.4 Solve Compound Inequalities TEKS a.5, A.7.B

**QUESTION** How can you use a graphing calculator to display the solutions of a compound inequality?

**EXAMPLE** Display the solutions of a compound inequality on a graphing calculator

Display the solutions of  $12 \leq 3x \leq 21$  on a graphing calculator.

**STEP 1** Rewrite inequality

Rewrite  $12 \leq 3x \leq 21$  as two separate inequalities joined by *and*.

$12 \leq 3x \leq 21$  Write original inequality.

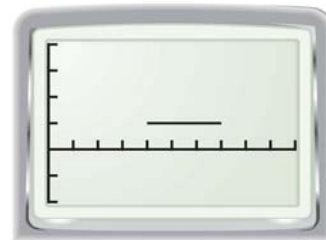
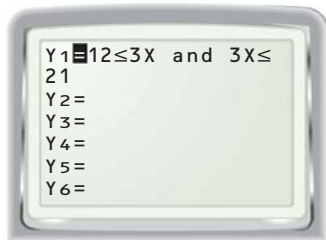
$12 \leq 3x$  and  $3x \leq 21$  Write as two inequalities joined by *and*.

**STEP 2** Enter inequalities

Press **Y=** and enter the two inequalities, as shown. Inequality signs can be found in the TEST menu, and *and* and *or* can be found in the LOGIC menu.

**STEP 3** Display solutions

Press **GRAPH** to display the solutions of  $12 \leq 3x$  and  $3x \leq 21$ . For each value of  $x$  that makes the inequality true, the calculator assigns a value of 1 to  $y$  and plots the point  $(x, 1)$ . For each value of  $x$  that makes the inequality false, the calculator assigns a value of 0 to  $y$  and plots the point  $(x, 0)$ .



The screen in Step 3 shows the graph of  $y = 1$  over the interval  $4 \leq x \leq 7$ . This suggests that the solutions are all real numbers greater than or equal to 4 and less than or equal to 7.

**DRAW CONCLUSIONS**

1. Display the solutions of  $12 < 3x < 21$  on a graphing calculator. Then compare the graph of  $12 < 3x < 21$  with the graph of  $12 \leq 3x \leq 21$ .
2. When displaying the solutions of an inequality on a graphing calculator, how do you know which inequality symbols you should use in your solution?

Display the solutions of the inequality on a graphing calculator.

- |                             |                                 |                                  |
|-----------------------------|---------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| 3. $9 \leq 3x \leq 21$      | 4. $4 < 4x < 8$                 | 5. $2 \leq \frac{1}{4}x \leq 12$ |
| 6. $-6x > 18$ or $-9x < 45$ | 7. $4x \leq 18$ or $5x \geq 25$ | 8. $8x \leq 16$ or $3x \geq 30$  |