You can draw a triangle with o = 5 and a = 3. Then use the Pythagorean Theorem to find the length *h*, of the hypotenuse:

$$5^2 + 3^2 = h^2 \Rightarrow 25 + 9 = h^2 \Rightarrow 34 = h^2 \Rightarrow \sqrt{34} = h$$

Now use the definition of cosine:

$$\cos X = \frac{a}{h} = \frac{3}{\sqrt{34}}$$