



Story Problems with Division: Making Equal Groups

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Math
Grades 3-5



Introduction

What does it mean to divide things into equal groups? Is it easy to divide every number? In this lesson students will practice dividing “beans” to make equal groups.

Learning Objectives

- [CCSS.Math.Content.3.OA.A.3](#)
- Use multiplication and division within 100 to solve word problems in situations involving equal groups.

Materials Needed

- *Bean Thirteen* by Matthew McElliott, approximately 20 beans, exit ticket questions

Procedure

1. The teacher will introduce the lesson by reading *Bean Thirteen* by Matthew McElliott. This story talks about two insect buddies who try to divide up thirteen beans evenly. The teacher will use this book to help get the students thinking about what it means to divide items up into equal groups, a starting block for division.
2. After reading, the teacher will show various numbers of beans on the whiteboard/projector/etc. She will call various numbers of students up and model what it would look like for each of them to get an equal number. “If I have four friends and 20 beans, how many beans can each friend have?” Students will volunteer to help distribute the beans to the friends as they solve the questions posed by the teacher.
3. The teacher will point out what happens when there aren’t enough beans to make equal groups. These beans are the remainder.
4. After the lesson, students will return to their desk to answer the following questions (or similar questions developed by the teacher) as an exit ticket:
 - Principal Johnson invited five friends over. He had 25 beans. How many beans will each friend get?
 - Jill has 33 beans. She wants to give her mom, dad, sister, and herself the same number. How many beans will each person get? Will there be any left over?
 - Antawan has 18 beans. He gives six to his best friend. Then he wants to give some to his aunt and uncle. How many beans will his aunt and uncle get, if they all get the same number?

Evaluation

Completion of the 3 exit ticket questions.