

Division as Sharing (Partition)

Activity

Students need access to an individual pile of counters, roughly 20-50 counters.

1. **Place counters in front of students.**
2. **Have students count out a certain multiple of 3 less than 20 (e.g. 15).**

Have each student place them directly in front of him or her and put the others aside.



3. **As each**

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4. **Dis each**

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we done to 15 to get 5?" "We have shared 15 into 3 equal groups, and each group has 5." "We divided 15 among 3 and made 3 groups of 5."

Introduce the mathematical term "division" and relate it to sharing and "dividing into equal groups". Use lots of oral discussions to start with, to establish the concept before introducing the division symbol.

5. **Repeat using other multiples and other counting materials such as cubes or sticks.**

Always have students repeat the language you are using.

6. **Relate to multiplication.**

Some students may have already made the connection that division relates to multiplication. Make sure students realize that division is like "backwards multiplication". You start with the large number and share it out into smaller equal groups.

Teacher Instructions: Ask students to cut out the objects below and divide them into equal groups. Students may draw circles first and glue the objects into them.

1. 18 divided into 3 equal groups. How many in each group? _____

2. 12 di



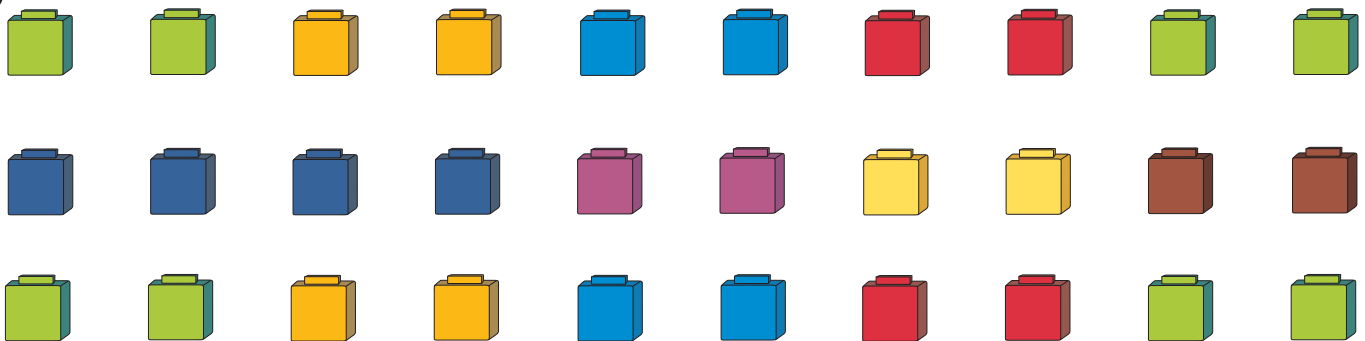
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Teacher Instructions: Ask students to cut out the objects below and divide them into equal groups. Students may draw circles first and glue the objects into them.

1. 14 divided into 2 equal groups. How many in each group? _____

2. 16 d

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