

Division — Introduction to Remainders

Base Sheet

Activity Sheet

The child encounters division problems that do not divide evenly, discovering the concept of remainders. Using concrete materials, they see that sometimes there are 'leftovers' that cannot be shared equally.

What You Need:

- 20+ counters or beads
- Small bowls or cups (2-5)
- Paper and pencil
- Floor mat

Steps:

1. Set up 7 objects (counters, beads) and 2 bowls.
2. 'Let's share 7 equally between 2. Give one to this bowl, one to that bowl...'
3. Count: each bowl has 3. One is left over! 'This leftover is called a REMAINDER.'
4. Write: $7 \div 2 = 3$ remainder 1 (or 3 R1).
5. Try more: $10 \div 3 = 3$ R1. $13 \div 4 = 3$ R1. $17 \div 5 = 3$ R2.
6. 'The remainder is always LESS than the number you are dividing by. Why?'
7. Challenge: 'Can you find a division problem with NO remainder?'

Work Space:

