

Fair shares

Annotation

Millie distributes the counters equally onto the plates, one at a time. To confirm that she has equal groups on the plates she counts the number of counters on each plate starting at one each time. Millie is able to explain her thinking.

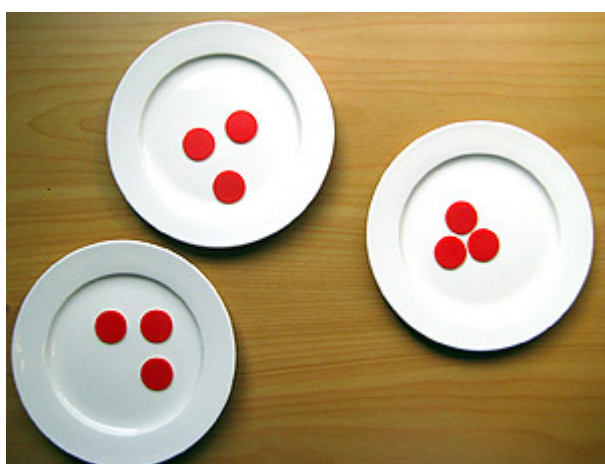
Problem: Fair shares

The teacher gives the student nine counters (representing biscuits) and three plates and poses this problem:

How many biscuits would be on a plate if each plate had the same number?



Student response



Millie: Three on each plate.

Millie carefully counts the plates and then the counters, counting from one each time. She then shares the counters evenly, placing one counter on each of the three plates, then another on each plate, then another. Finally she carefully checks the number on each plate counting 1, 2, 3 each

time.

Teacher: What do you know that helped you?

Millie: I know that you have to share them out onto the plates. If you give one to each plate each time and do not miss one out it will be fair. I know to check how many when I'm done, just to make sure.