

Sharing licorice logs

Annotation

Archie uses known multiplication facts to solve this problem. He is also able to apply his fractional knowledge to reach a solution and he can explain his thinking.

Problem: Sharing licorice logs

The teacher shows this problem to the student and reads it with him as required:

You are dividing up 10 licorice logs between yourself and two friends. How much do you each get?

Student response

Archie: We each get $3\frac{1}{3}$ logs

Teacher: Tell me how you did that.

Archie: Well I know that three times three is nine so that means that the three of us get three whole licorice logs anyway. And then I thought about sharing that leftover one. If I share one log between the three of us we each get one third of that one. So altogether we each get $3\frac{1}{3}$.