



Sharing Nature

Making Equal Parts

Beginner: While on a walk, collect and sort items such as leaves or rocks.

[Tip]: Count the number of each item out loud together.

Intermediate: While on a walk, collect rocks, sticks, or leaves and divide them into groups equally.

[Tip]: Divide 6 sticks into two and then three equal groups. Emphasize “equal groups.”

Experienced: While on a walk, collect rocks, sticks, or leaves and divide them into groups equally. Talk about what happens when it is not possible to make equal groups.

[Tip]: Try to make 2 equal groups with 5 leaves. Can you split the 5th leaf in half to make equal groups?

Why is this important? Sorting objects into groups develops the understanding of proportions, division, and fractions.

References: Cutting, C. (n.d.). Re-thinking fraction instruction in primary school: the case for an alternative approach in the early years. Retrieved November 5, 2021, from <https://files.eric.ed.gov/fulltext/ED604346.pdf>

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