The Doorbell Rang

Length of Play: 5-10 min.   **Group Size:** Whole Class

Learning Goals

This activity is designed to help children strengthen their equipartitioning skills as they:

- Divide a collection of objects into equal groups
- Understand what it means to share equally
- Learn or reinforce number names and numerals
- Count a collection of objects

Vocabulary

equal, same, different, more, less, half, add, divide, too few, too many, not enough, share, number names

Materials

- *The Doorbell Rang* by Pat Hutchins
- 12 Paper Cookies templates, included
- Cardstock or plain paper

Preparation

1. Print the Paper Cookies template, on cardstock if possible, and cut out the cookies.

2. Read the story through before presenting it to the children. Think about how you might engage the children in discussing the equal-sharing problems in the story (see Directions for some suggestions).

Directions

1. *Before You Read*:

   - Move your finger across the words as you read the title of the book and the names of the author/illustrator. Invite the children to look at the art on the book cover and describe what they see.

   - Have the group count along as you point to each child on the book cover. Ask, *What are the children doing?*

2. *As You Read*:

- Pause and ask the children to suggest ways to solve the equal-sharing challenges in the story. Each time new characters arrive, ask, *How many children are there now? How many cookies are there in all? How many cookies do you think each child will get so everyone has the same number of cookies? How do you know?*

Note: You may want to use the cookie props as a visual aid to help the children understand the story and the math.
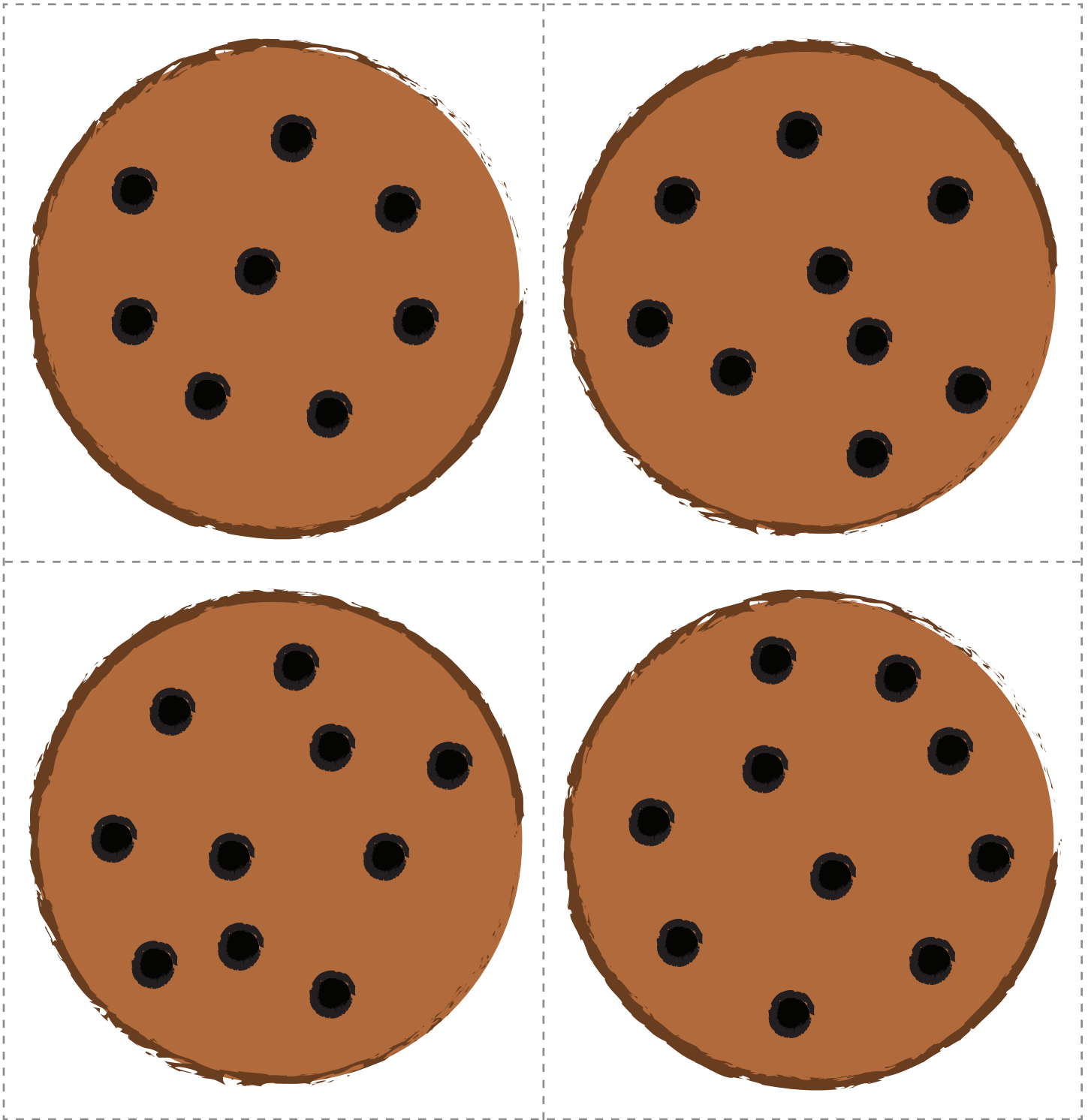
The Doorbell Rang: Paper Cookies 1

Instructions: Print and cut out all the cookies. Laminate, if desired.
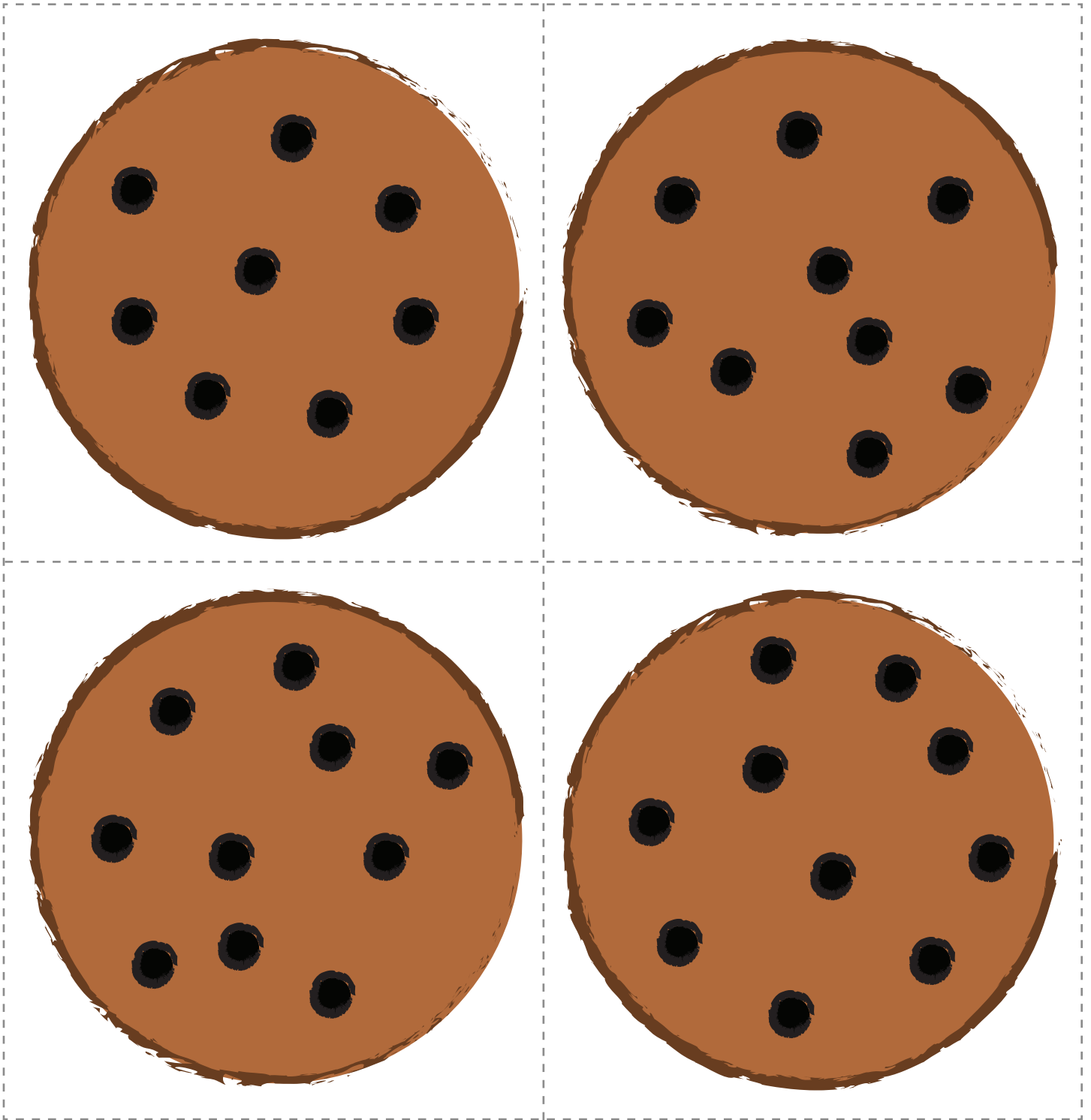
The Doorbell Rang: Paper Cookies 2

Instructions: Print and cut out all the cookies. Laminate, if desired.

EQUIPARTITIONING

The Doorbell Rang: Paper Cookies 3
Instructions: Print and cut out all the cookies. Laminate, if desired.