

Paper Sandwiches

Length of Play: 10-15 min. **Group Size:** Whole Class

Learning Goals

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

- Divide and share a whole object equally
- Compare the pieces in a collection and identify whether they are the same size
- Understand what it means to share equally
- Count a collection of objects
- Learn or reinforce number names

Vocabulary

bigger, smaller, same, different, divide, half, equal, share, number names

Materials

- Paper Sandwiches (included)
- Cardstock or plain paper
- Safety scissors (several pairs)

Preparation

Print and cut out 3-6 paper sandwiches.

Directions

1. Tell the class that you need their help cutting a sandwich into equal-sized pieces and sharing the pieces. Show them a paper sandwich and ask for suggestions on how to divide it in half. Have a volunteer cut the sandwich in half according to one of their suggestions.
2. Have another volunteer model how to place one piece on top of another to check that the pieces are the same size.
3. Ask the class, *Are the pieces equal?* If not, encourage the rest of the class to provide solutions. They may suggest redistributing a bit of the bigger piece to the smaller piece, or starting over and planning the cut carefully by folding the sandwich in half or drawing a line down the middle. In either case, have another volunteer try one of the strategies suggested. Check that the halves are now equal in size and have yet



Paper Sandwiches (cont.)

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another volunteer share the halves between 2 children.

4. Repeat the activity, this time taking suggestions for cutting sandwiches into quarters and eighths and having new volunteers cut and share the pieces among 2, 4, or 8 children.

Note: For more of a challenge, have children cut a sandwich into sixteenths.



Paper Sandwiches

Instructions: Print out six copies and cut along the dotted lines. Have children divide each sandwich into equal pieces and check to make sure the pieces are equal.

