

Birthday Party Lollipops – Open-ended Problem

To turn it into more of a division (that could be solved by the working backwards strategy - turning the division into multiplication) how about the scenario is:

"You're having a birthday party and to get things ready your mum has bought a big bag of lollipops - it has 24 lollipops in it. Decide how many people are coming to your party - now make sure everyone gets the same amount of lollipops each."

Take the kids through or remind them of the problem solving strategies - encourage them to come up with more than one possibility - especially if they pick 5 kids to come to the party and they then work out that this doesn't work out evenly.