

School-Wide Math Problem

The Field Trip

Working with a partner, solve this problem:

A fifth-grade class traveled on a field trip in four separate cars. The school provided a lunch of submarine sandwiches for each group. When they stopped for lunch, the subs were cut and shared as follows:

- The first group had 4 people and shared 3 subs equally
- The second group had 5 people and shared 4 subs equally
- The third group had 8 people and shared 7 subs equally
- The last group had 5 people and shared 3 subs equally

When they returned from the field trip, the children began to argue that the distribution of the sandwiches had not been fair, that some children got more to eat than the others. Were they right? Or did everyone get the same amount?

1. Was the distribution fair – did each person in each group get the same amount?
2. How much of a sub did each person get, assuming the pieces were cut equally?

Remember, this is a problem solving question. Use the success criteria poster for problem solving. Please make a poster to show your ideas. Make sure you indicate where the subs should be cut.