



Activity Idea

Activity

Remainder of one

Possibilities for maths learning	☑ Counting	☑ Composition	☑ Cardinality
	□ Subitise	☑ Comparison	□ Measure
	Shape	Pattern	Spatial awareness

Resources	 The book, A Remainder of One by Elinor J. Pinczes Bags or containers with 25 counting blocks or loose parts e.g. pebbles/buttons to represent the 25 bugs in each container (Each child or group of children should have 25 blocks/loose parts)
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Activity Outline	Explain that the queen in the book, 'A Remainder of One', is having a problem and she needs the children's help. The queen needs her army to line up into even and equal lines. She has 25 members in her bug army.
	Explain that the children are going to receive 25 counting blocks/loose parts to help them solve the problem and they will use these when prompted as you read the book.
	 Begin reading the book. Stop after reading: "The troop had divided by two for the show." Have the children take out their resources and ask them if they can make two equal groups (you can provide containers or a base to support children to divide them into 2 groups). The children will be able to make two groups of 12 but will have 1 left over. Encourage children to count the groups and have the children share their findings/observations and reasoning. Read the rest of the page: "Each bug had a partner, except soldier Joe." Ask the children: "There are 25 bug soldiers altogether. Can you line them up side by side so they each have a partner. Do they make two equal lines?" Have the children share their findings/observations and reasoning. "No they do not make two equal lines. So, 25 bugs divided into two groups has 12 bugs in each line with 1 bug leftover."
	Continue reading the book. Stop after reading: "The troop had divided by three for the show." Have the children take out their resources and make three equal groups. The children will be able to make three groups of 8, but will have 1 left over. Encourage children to count the groups and have the children share their findings/observations and reasoning.

Read the rest of the page: "Each line seemed perfect. Then someone spied Joe." Ask the children: "There are 25 bug soldiers altogether. Can you line them up to make three even and equal lines?" Have the children share their findings/observations and reasoning. "No they do not make three equal lines. So, 25 bugs divided into three groups has 8 bugs in each line with 1 bug left over."
Continue reading the book. Stop after reading: "The troop had divided by four for the show." Have the children take out their resources and make four equal groups. The children will be able to make four groups of 6, but will have 1 left over. Encourage children to count the groups and have the children share their findings/observations and reasoning. Read the rest of the page: "The lines all looked even, till they spotted Joe." Ask the children: "There are 25 bug soldiers. Can you line them up to make four even and equal lines?" Have the children share their findings/observations and reasoning.
Continue reading the book. Stop after reading: "Five lines of soldiers" Again, have the children take out their resources and make five equal groups. The children will be able to make five groups of 5 with no remainders. Encourage children to count the groups and have the children share their findings/observations and reasoning. Read the rest of the page: "with 5 in each row perfect at last—and that's counting Joe." Ask the children: "There are 25 bug soldiers. Can you line them up to make five even and equal lines?" Have the children share their findings/observations and reasoning. "Yes they do make five equal lines. So, 25 bugs divided into five groups has 5 bugs in each line, with no bugs left over."

Extension	✓ Present different scenarios and numbers for the children to group and divide. Use
Opportunities	larger or smaller numbers, depending on the children's abilities.