



EduTrend Contents

P4C · FAIRNESS AND JUSTICE · PRIMARY

The Last Slice

Three friends and two slices of cake: what is the fairest way to share?

Ages 5–7

Level: Foundation

30 minutes

Whole class circle · up
to 30

Activity 01

Inside: activity at a glance · step-by-step session plan · facilitator notes · 3 pupil worksheets · assessment checklist

ACTIVITY 01 · AT A GLANCE

The Last Slice

Three friends have two slices of cake. Children suggest ways to share, using paper slices: cut them up, take turns, give it to whoever is hungriest, or flip a coin. They try each idea, then create questions and vote on one, such as “Is fair always the same for everyone?” The enquiry uses a talking object so everyone who wants to can speak.

Learning outcomes

By the end of the session pupils can:

- suggest ways to share fairly;
- compare different ideas of fairness;
- give a reason;
- listen and respond to others.

KEY WORDS

fair · share · equal · turn · need · reason

CURRICULUM LINKS

Maths: halves and thirds. PSHE: sharing and friendship. English: speaking and listening.

1

STIMULUS

Share something to think about

2

THINK

Quiet thinking time

3

QUESTION

Create and choose a question

4

ENQUIRE

Reason together

5

BUILD

Agree, disagree, add

6

REFLECT

Last words

Materials (per class)

- Paper cake slices
- Scissors (adult use)
- Question and thinking-move cards
- Worksheets 1, 2 and 3

Before the session

- Read the stimulus and note possible concepts.
- Prepare question and thinking-move cards.
- Set out a circle so everyone can see each other.
- Print the worksheets.

SAFETY

Everyone may pass. Discuss ideas, not people, and use the story or invented examples rather than personal situations.

ACTIVITY 01 · SESSION PLAN

Step by step

Stay neutral: ask for reasons, examples and counter-examples rather than giving your own view.

Time	What happens	Say or ask
0–5 min Stimulus	Show three friends and two paper slices of cake.	<i>"What did you notice?"</i>
5–12 min Questions	Pupils create questions in pairs and vote on one.	<i>"Which question is most interesting to talk about?"</i>
12–26 min Enquiry	Enquire into the chosen question, building on each other's ideas.	<i>"Is fair always the same for everyone?"</i>
26–30 min Last words	Each person says one last thought or passes.	<i>"Has your thinking changed?"</i>

CHALLENGE CARD (print or copy onto the board)

Choose the fairest way to share and give a reason a friend could agree with.

ACTIVITY 01 · FACILITATOR NOTES

The philosophy in brief

Even young children have strong ideas about fairness and can explain them when asked.

Comparing different ways of sharing shows that fairness can mean equal shares, taking turns or meeting needs.

Common ideas to listen for

- “Fair means everyone gets exactly the same.”
Sometimes needs differ.
- “The biggest person should get most.” Ask why.
- “Fair is whatever I want.” Fairness involves others.

Adapting the activity

Support

Act it out with toys.

Stretch

Ask: what if one friend did not like cake?

WORKSHEET 1

Ways to share

Name: _____

Class: _____ Date: _____

Draw each idea.

Ways to share

Idea	Picture	Fair?

WORKSHEET 2

Thinking moves

Use these in the enquiry.

Thinking moves

Thinking move	My example
I agree with... because...	
I disagree with... because...	
An example is...	
A counter-example is...	
Building on what... said...	

WORKSHEET 3

Last words

Before and after.

Who should decide what is fair? Before the enquiry I thought... Now I think... because...

FOR THE TEACHER

Assessment checklist

Use during the session. One sheet covers up to eight pupils; copy as needed.

Pupil	Suggests a way to share	Gives a reason	Listens to others

Suggested codes: W = working towards · E = expected · G = greater depth

ABOUT THIS ACTIVITY

The Last Slice is a sample activity from the EduTrend Contents P4C Fairness and Justice programme (primary, level: foundation). Every activity in the programme follows the same format: a practical challenge, a clear session plan, facilitator notes and ready-to-print worksheets, so that teachers, club leaders and parents can run it without extra preparation.

Full 15-, 20- and 32-week programmes are available from EduStore at edutrend.org.