

ACTIVITY IA11.12: Keeping Records at the Pancake Place

Intended learning: To introduce a notation to record equivalent fractions arising from sharing by table problems.

Materials: Prepared table columns to jointly construct a table (see Figure 11.21).

Number of pancakes	?	6								?
Number at the table	4	8								40

Figure 11.21 Pancake and people recording table

Description: Establish the context of serving pancakes to children seated at tables in a restaurant.

At a pancake restaurant 8 children are seated around a table with 6 pancakes. If there are two smaller tables each with 4 children how many pancakes should be placed at the tables so that they receive the same amount of pancake? If 40 more children arrive at the restaurant, how many pancakes are needed so that if they all sat at the one table they also would receive the same share?

Introduce the pancake table by adding the row headings to the board and having students complete the columns for 4, 8 and 40 at the table. Ask the students to think of other problems that belong on the table and to complete those values. *Does it matter which table group you join at the pancake restaurant described above?*