Name: ..... Class: .....

Fractions of a whole: word problems

a. Yesterday, Basil bought an apple. He divided the apple into 4 equal pieces because he wanted to share it with his friends. One of his friends refused to eat so, he ate two pieces of the apple. What fraction of the apple did Basil eat? (simplify your answer).

b. Last week on their way to the mother's little animal farm, Larry bought sugar cane. He divided the sugar cane equally amongst him and his 10 friends. He then ate his part in a matter of minutes. What fraction of sugar cane did he eat?

Solution

mathskills4kids

Name: ..... Class: .....

Fractions of a whole: word problems

a. Yesterday, Basil bought an apple. He divided the apple into 4 equal pieces because he wanted to share it with his friends. One of his friends refused to eat so, he ate two pieces of the apple. What fraction of the apple did Basil eat? (simplify your answer).

Let's represent the apple divided into 4 equal pieces in a model.

Now, let's shade 2 parts to indicate 2 pieces of the apple.

You see that, the model shows 2 shaded parts out of 4 parts.

So, the fraction is $\frac{2}{4}$ or $\frac{1}{2}$

Therefore, Basil ate $\frac{1}{2}$ of the apple.

b. Last week on their way to the mother's little animal farm, Larry bought sugar cane. He divided the sugar cane equally amongst him and his 10 friends. He then ate his part in a matter of minutes. What fraction of sugar cane did he eat?

Let's represent the sugar cane divided into 11 equal parts since they are 11 people in number on a model.

Now, let's shade 1 part to indicate the part that Larry ate.

You see that, the model shows 1 shaded part out of 11 equal parts.

So, the fraction is $\frac{1}{11}$

Therefore, Larry ate $\frac{1}{11}$ of the sugar cane.