



Lunch Count Choices

DECISION MAKING · TWO COLUMNS

Asha moves the lunch magnets on the board near the door. The cafeteria basket already holds yesterday's slip and a bent straw. The teacher needs today's lunch count for the office tray. A reading group is ready at the back table. Asha must finish the count and not hold up the group. Some choices help Asha work fast, but some make mistakes more likely.

Sort each choice into Works or Doesn't Work for Asha's lunch count.

WORKS	DOESN'T WORK

- 1. Count each lunch choice once, then place the slip in the office tray. → Works
- 2. Guess the count from yesterday's slip. → Doesn't Work
- 3. Ask the teacher where to put a lunch choice that is missing. → Works
- 4. Move all magnets into one pile and count later. → Doesn't Work
- 5. Count the hot lunch, cold lunch, and no school lunch groups separately. → Works
- 6. Start reading group and leave the lunch board unfinished. → Doesn't Work

Think about it: What makes one choice better for a lunch count that must be quick and correct?

TEACHER NOTE

Correct answers are Works: count each choice once, ask the teacher, and count groups separately.
Doesn't Work: guess from yesterday, move all magnets into one pile, and leave the board unfinished. A strong response notices that Asha needs a quick choice that still keeps the count correct.

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