



SAMPLE MATERIAL

Dumb Friends League Problem

Tollgate Elementary School of Expeditionary Learning, Colorado

Topic: Developing Effective Fractions Instruction for K-8

Practice: Operations With Fractions

A fifth-grade teacher from Tollgate Elementary School of Expeditionary Learning poses fraction problems during Number Talk. The discussion format asks students to work as a class, using different strategies, mental math, and purposeful fraction computation to answer questions about a story problem based in a real-world context. This example, which centers on finding shelters for dogs, requires students to combine fractions and compare the sum to 100%.



Dumb Friends League



The Dumb Friends League is doing their best to help place homeless dogs during the cold weather.

They were $\frac{1}{3}$ full as of Sunday. They are willing to fill $\frac{1}{12}$ of their shelter with dogs from Greeley, $\frac{2}{6}$ with dogs from Boulder, and $\frac{3}{4}$ with dogs from Colorado Springs.

Will this plan fill the Dumb Friends League shelter to 100%?

Extend: If Colorado Springs has 20 homeless dogs and the Dumb Friends League agrees to take $\frac{3}{4}$ of them, how many dogs will they be sending to the shelter?