



Using Formative Assessment to Dig into the Core

Edward C. Nolan
Montgomery County Public Schools

Goals

- Make sense of the learning progressions involving fraction understanding and proportional reasoning.
- Learn how to include the formative assessment process into daily instruction.
- Discuss the importance of effective feedback to improve student understanding and achievement.

© 2014 Edward C. Nolan

Engaging Students in Reasoning and Sense Making

Consider how a student would solve this. . .

A student is asked to share 4 cookies equally among 5 friends. How much of a cookie should each friend get?

© 2014 Edward C. Nolan



Formative Assessment Process

- Unpack the essential learning content and practice standards
- Develop and use well-designed tasks selected for balance of cognitive demand
- Collect data from those tasks
- Provide clear and descriptive feedback to students
- Use the feedback to adjust teaching and learning

© 2014 Edward C. Nolan



Solve . . .

Ellen, Jim, and Steve bought three helium-filled balloons and paid \$2 for all three. They decided to go back to the store and buy enough balloons for everyone in the class. How much did they pay for 24 balloons?

Source: Lamon (1993)

© 2014 Edward C. Nolan