What Happened to the Gumdrops?

A large jar in the classroom contained candy gumdrops. Josh saw the jar and took 1/2 of them hoping no one would notice. Soon after, Erin took 1/3 of the remaining drops (she also hoped no one would notice). A bit later, Karen took 1/2 of the gumdrops that were now in the jar. Finally, David took 1/3 of what was left in the jar. The jar then contained 4 gumdrops. How many gumdrops were originally in the jar before Josh, Erin, Karen, and David raided the candy jar?

Make sure you include the answer and an explanation as to how you determined the correct response. Show any mathematical calculations you used to figure out the answer. March 20th is the Spring (Vernal) Equinox. The length of the day and night are the same duration. Did you know you could balance a raw egg on its end on this day? HOWEVER, you could also balance a raw egg on its end on ANY day of the year. It is a misconception that it can only be done twice a year.

Have fun – Dr. Fraccaro