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Adding and Subtracting Mixed Numbers with Like Denominators Word Problems (4.NF.3.c)

Directions: Solve the following word problem. Show your work.

Alison and Jeff have 5 3/8 wedding cakes left over from their wedding. If they send home cake with friends they still will have 1 6/8 cake left over. How much cake did they send home with friends? Explain your answer. Use pictures to help.

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Answer:			
X	X	X	X
X	X	X	X
X	X	X	X
X	X		

The shaded pieces represent the amount of wedding cake they had left over from the wedding. The Xs on the shaded pieces indicate what they had left over after giving cake away to friends.

They started with 5 3/8 cakes left from the wedding. They had 1 6/8 left over after giving cake to friends. If you count the number of shaded pieces without Xs on them you have 29 pieces. This is represented as an improper fraction as 29/8. 29/8 = 3 5/8. They gave away 3 5/8 cakes to friends.