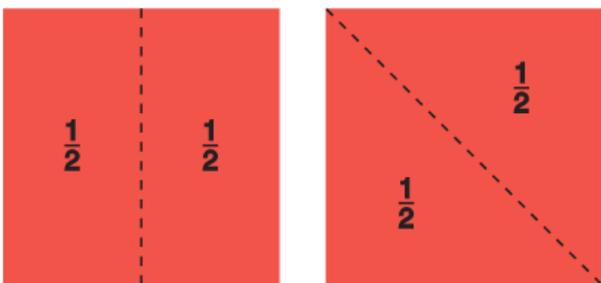


Dimensions Math
Grade 2 Letter Home
Chapter 11 Fractions

Home Connection

In Chapter 11, your child will learn fractional notation, however, the terms “numerator” and “denominator” will not be introduced until third grade. This is so the terminology does not interfere with understanding.



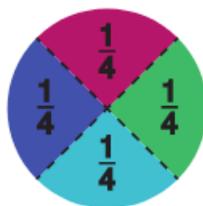
Fractions are numbers that count equally divided parts of the whole.



When we divide a shape into 2 equal parts, each part is one-half of the whole. We write one-half as $\frac{1}{2}$. $\frac{1}{2}$ means 1 out of 2 equally divided parts.

Unit fractions represent one part of the whole. $\frac{1}{3}$ and $\frac{1}{7}$ are examples of unit fractions. Your child will not need to know the term “unit fractions.” They should, however, understand that a common fraction is composed of unit fractions:

$$\frac{3}{4} = \frac{1}{4} + \frac{1}{4} + \frac{1}{4}$$

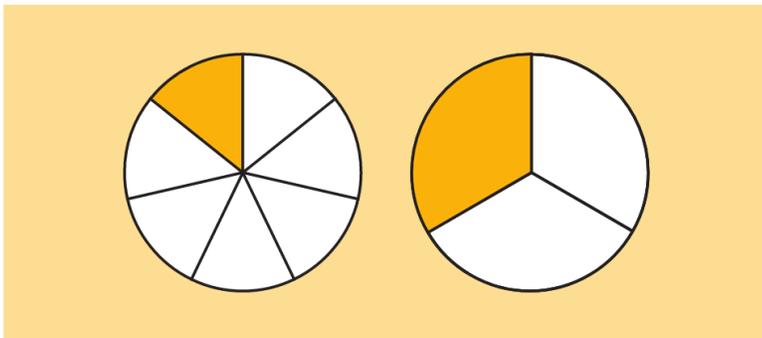


Unit fractions are a foundational concept that is critical for fraction work in future grades.

Your child will find 2 fractions that make 1 whole.



Finally, in this chapter your child will learn to compare unit fractions. To compare fractions, the whole for both fractions must be the same. It is important for your child to realize that the unit fraction with the greater denominator is the smaller fraction, since the whole is divided into more parts. $\frac{1}{7}$ is smaller, or less, than $\frac{1}{3}$ because the whole is divided into 7 parts, which is more than 3 parts.



What can we do at home?

- **The Missing Piece Activity** (practice fractions that make 1 whole)
 - Materials: 9 paper circles or paper plates and markers
 - Divide each plate into a different number of pieces: half, thirds, fourths, fifths, sixths, sevenths, eights, ninths, and tenths.
 - Label one piece on each circle with the appropriate fraction and then cut out that piece
 - Label the remaining circles: $\frac{1}{2}$, $\frac{2}{3}$, $\frac{3}{4}$, $\frac{4}{5}$, $\frac{5}{6}$, $\frac{6}{7}$, $\frac{7}{8}$, $\frac{8}{9}$, $\frac{9}{10}$
 - Mix up all the pieces and see how quickly you can match them
- Try cooking a recipe that requires measuring with fractions.
- Continue practicing math facts – there are many online programs to practice facts. Here are 2 suggestions: <https://xtramath.org> www.varsitytutors.com/aplusmath