



FOURTH GRADE MATHEMATICS – Cluster 5

Dear Parents,

Here is what your child is learning in fourth grade, Cluster 5, along with some specific ways you can help. Look for additional newsletters for upcoming units.

NUMBER RELATIONSHIPS – FRACTIONS

Students need to:

- Read, write, and represent proper fractions with sixths, eighths, and tenths and mixed numbers, using symbols, words, and models.
- Represent proper and improper fractions and mixed numbers in equivalent form.
- Compare and order fractions and mixed numbers with like denominators.
- Represent proper fractions with denominators of 6, 8, or 10 and mixed numbers on a number line.

KEY VOCABULARY

Denominator: The quantity in a fraction written below the fraction bar. It indicates the number of equal parts into which a whole is divided.

Equivalent: having the same value

GCF: The greatest common factor is the largest common factor of two or more numbers.

Improper fraction: A fraction with a value greater than 1, which is not written as a mixed number, such as $11/6$.

Mixed number: A number with a whole number part and a fraction part, such as $7\frac{1}{2}$.

Numerator: The quantity in a fraction written above the fraction bar. It tells how many equal parts are described by the fraction.

Proper fraction: A fraction with a value less than 1, such as $3/8$.

Simplest form: a fraction is in simplest form when the largest number that can be divided evenly into both the numerator and denominator is found. Ex. $\frac{6}{9}$ --- $\frac{6 \div 3}{9 \div 3} = \frac{2}{3}$

WAYS PARENTS CAN HELP

- Involve your children in baking and cooking activities whenever possible. Have them read the fraction amounts in a recipe, then find the measuring cups to use for those quantities.
- Write different fractions and mixed numbers on paper or index cards. Using a long piece of string or yarn, hang up a number line. Then, have your child order the fractions or mixed numbers on the line, using clothes pins to hold the cards in place.