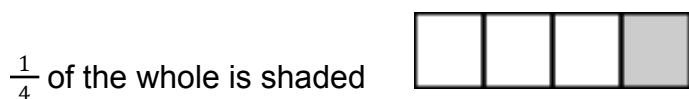


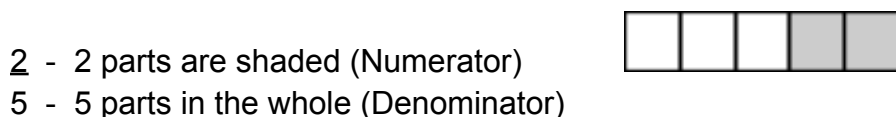
## Parent Information: Fractions (3rd Grade)

A fraction can be a part of a whole, a part of a set, or a location on a number line.



**Numerator:** The number of parts that are described. (The top number of the fraction.)

**Denominator:** The total number of parts in the whole. (The bottom number of the fraction.)



**Unit Fraction:** A fraction with 1 as the numerator. A unit fraction represents one part of a whole that has been divided into equal parts.

A fraction can be expressed as the sum of unit fractions.  $\frac{3}{4} = \frac{1}{4} + \frac{1}{4} + \frac{1}{4}$

**Equivalent Fractions:** Fractions that name the same part of a whole, the same part of a set, or the same location on a number line.

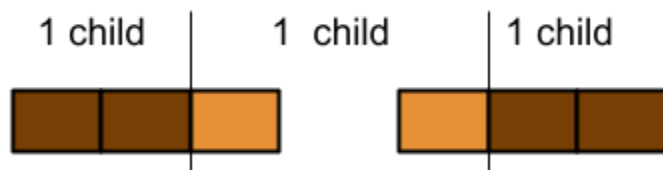


$\frac{2}{4}$  is equivalent to  $\frac{1}{2}$



You can use fractions to share things equally.

3 children share 2 sandwiches equally. Each child will get  $\frac{2}{3}$  of a sandwich.



4 children share 5 cookies equally. Each child will get 1 whole cookie and  $\frac{1}{4}$  of a cookie.



A **benchmark number** is a familiar number that is easy to use. Common benchmark numbers for fractions are 0,  $\frac{1}{2}$ , and 1.

You can **compare fractions** by thinking about the size of the fractions compared to benchmark numbers.

$\frac{7}{8}$  is greater than  $\frac{2}{5}$  because  $\frac{7}{8}$  is **greater** than  $\frac{1}{2}$



and  $\frac{2}{5}$  is **less than**  $\frac{1}{2}$ .

$\frac{2}{5}$  is less than  $\frac{7}{8}$  because

$\frac{7}{8}$  is **almost** 1 whole



and  $\frac{2}{5}$  is **less than**  $\frac{1}{2}$ .



You can **compare fractions** by thinking about the size of the parts.

$\frac{1}{5}$  is less than  $\frac{1}{3}$  because 1 out of 5 equal pieces of a whole is smaller than 1 out of 3 equal pieces of the same whole.

$\frac{5}{6}$  is greater than  $\frac{4}{5}$  because sixths are smaller than fifths so the part of  $\frac{6}{6}$  that is not shaded ( $\frac{1}{6}$ ) is less than the part of  $\frac{5}{5}$  that is not shaded. ( $\frac{1}{5}$ ).



**Fraction Tiles** can be used to compare fractions and to add and subtract fractions. They can also be used to multiply a fraction by a whole number.

[illegible]