



#3609

FRACTIONS: ANY WAY YOU SLICE IT

Grade Levels: 5-8
19 minutes
PBS VIDEO 1995
1 Student Activity Sheet

DESCRIPTION

Ms. Toliver's middle school math class never knows what to expect. After a brief history of pizza, she teaches the group the importance of fractions in the "Great Pizza Swap." Her student Eddie discovers a professional chef, photographer, and drummer who use fractions in their work every day. Eddie learns to connect math concepts to daily life.

ACADEMIC STANDARDS

Subject Area: Math

- ◆ Standard: Uses a variety of strategies in the problem-solving process
 - Benchmark: Draws pictures to represent problems
 - Benchmark: Uses discussions with teachers and other students to understand problems
 - Benchmark: Explains to others how she or he went about solving a numerical problem
 - Benchmark: Makes organized lists or tables of information necessary for solving a problem
 - Benchmark: Uses whole number models (e.g., pattern blocks, tiles, or other manipulative materials) to represent problems

AFTER SHOWING

Applications and Activities

1. Repeat the Pizza Swap activity as seen in the video.
2. Write your own article about someone who uses fractions in his or her job. Follow these steps:
 - a. Find someone who uses fractions in his or her job. Your teacher or family may be able to help you with this.
 - b. Write down the questions that you want to ask.



- c. Meet with the person and ask your questions. If possible, take a photograph to go with your article. (If you do not have a camera, you can ask the person if he or she has any photographs that you could use, or you can draw a picture of the person at work.)
 - d. Write the article.
3. Find a recipe that has at least two fractions in it. Write it down. Then change the recipe so it will feed twice as many people. Write down the new recipe.
 4. Complete the Fraction Hunt activity. (See STUDENT ACTIVITY SHEET.)

SUMMARY

When Kay Toliver tells a story about the history of pizza, Eddie knows the class is in for a lesson on fractions. But not just any lesson: this is the "Great Pizza Swap," where good traders are good mathematicians. Thus begins Eddie's journey on a trail that then leads to Sal's Pizzeria, where the self-proclaimed "best pizza maker in the world" reveals a trade secret. In the kitchen of master chef Dennis Burrage and the studio of renowned percussionist Ndugu Chanler, Eddie discovers more surprising things about fractions. Eddie's growing fascination with photography gets the attention of pros at the photograph shop, and top sports photographer Tracy Frankel explains how understanding fractions can improve his picture-taking.



RELATED RESOURCES



Captioned Media Program

- Ace Math for Kids: Volume II, Part 4 #3559
- Fractions and All Their Parts—Part I #3245
- Fractions and All Their Parts—Part II #3246
- Fractions and All Their Parts—Part III #3247

World Wide Web



The following Web sites complement the contents of this guide; they were selected by professionals who have experience in teaching deaf and hard of hearing students. Every effort was made to select accurate, educationally relevant, and "kid-safe" sites. However, teachers should preview them before use. The U.S. Department of Education, the National Association of the Deaf, and the Captioned Media Program do not endorse the sites and are not responsible for their content.

- **AAA MATH**

<http://www.aaamath.com/>

Choose from a wide variety of math topics such as fractions, decimals, addition, subtraction, and more. A paragraph in tutorial form followed by a math-machine type sample. Then, play a game to reinforce the skill.

- **DRILL AND PRACTICE**

http://freeworksheets.com/sub_cat1Math.asp?cat=Math

Free worksheets. Offers a no-nonsense list of math concepts. Click on your topic of choice. Addition, subtraction, multiplication, division, telling time, measurement, fractions, decimals, and more. Simple to print.

- **THE LEARNING SITE**

<http://www.harcourtschool.com/index.html>

Presented by Harcourt School Publishers. Select the "Math" button, then identify which grade level for interactive Shockwave learning games. Use the "Search" option to locate printouts, lessons for classrooms, and documents for parents.

- **MATHLETICS**

<http://www.richmond.edu/~ed344/webunits/math/baseball.html>

Use fractions and percentages in baseball, bowling, and football mathematics calculations.

- **FUN BRAIN**

<http://www.funbrain.com/cgi-bin/search.cgi>

A wide selection of math games. Nicely organized with description of concept and skill. Teacher and parent areas. Other subjects also covered. Internal searching capabilities.

- **A+ MATH**

<http://www.aplusmath.com/>

Offers a little bit of everything for math drill and practice--designed to help kids improve their math skills interactively. There's a "Homework Helper," listings about what's new, flash card and worksheet printouts, a section of kids' games, parent pages, teacher pages, and more. Easy to navigate.

STUDENT ACTIVITY SHEET

- Fraction Hunt

FRACTION HUNT

Directions: Divide the words below as directed. Pay attention to details about "first," "last," "second," etc.



Example:

The first $\frac{1}{2}$ of FREE and the last $\frac{3}{4}$ of REACTION = FRACTION

1. The first $\frac{1}{6}$ of **YELLOW** and the first $\frac{1}{2}$ of **OUCH** _____
2. The first $\frac{1}{9}$ of **CHRISTMAS** and the last $\frac{2}{3}$ of **TAN** _____
3. The first $\frac{2}{7}$ of **BENEATH** _____
4. The last third of **HAT** and the first $\frac{2}{5}$ of **HEAVY** _____
5. The second $\frac{1}{3}$ of **OFFICE** and the last $\frac{1}{4}$ of **DOOR** and
the first $\frac{1}{3}$ of **STREET** _____
6. The last half of **GO** and the last $\frac{1}{2}$ of **DONE** _____
7. The last $\frac{1}{8}$ of **ELEPHANT** and the first $\frac{1}{5}$ of **ORDER** _____
8. The first $\frac{3}{4}$ of **FINE** and the last $\frac{3}{4}$ of **DISH** _____
9. The last $\frac{1}{6}$ of **CEMENT** and the first $\frac{3}{7}$ of **HISTORY** _____
10. The first $\frac{1}{7}$ of **INSTANT** and the first third of **FAT** _____
11. The first $\frac{2}{5}$ of **YOUNG** and the first $\frac{1}{10}$ of **UNDERSTAND** _____
12. The first $\frac{1}{4}$ of **UGLY** and the first $\frac{1}{5}$ of **SETTLEMENT** _____
13. The first $\frac{1}{4}$ of **YOUTHFUL** and the last half of **POUR** _____
14. The first $\frac{1}{4}$ of **HESITATE** and the last $\frac{2}{3}$ of **SAD** _____
15. The first $\frac{1}{3}$ of **PERMANENT** and the first half of **IODINE** _____