

**Master 5.6****To Parents and Adults at Home...**

Your child's class is starting a mathematics unit on fractions. Children will build upon their real-world experiences of "fair shares" to recognize a fraction as an expression that relates a part and a whole.

In this unit, your child will:

- Find fractions of a whole.
- Compare fractions with the same denominators.
- Solve fraction problems.

We use fractions every day in many different situations. Encourage your child to recognize the use of fractions in daily life, for example, when filling a glass half full, measuring ingredients for a recipe, or sharing an apple.

Here are some activities you can do with your child to help reinforce the concept of fractions.

**Fraction Activities**

- When you serve your child food, such as a sandwich or an orange, cut it in half (or thirds, or fourths, and so on) and challenge your child to name the fraction for each part. After some is eaten, have your child name the fraction for the parts that are left.
- Provide your child with opportunities to divide food items into equal parts. Have your child tell the fraction name for each part.
- Play a game of "fraction concentration." On index cards, write fraction symbols, such as  $\frac{1}{2}$ ,  $\frac{1}{3}$ ,  $\frac{1}{4}$ , ...,  $\frac{1}{12}$ . Prepare a second set of cards, on which you draw pictures to illustrate each fraction. Shuffle the cards and arrange them face down in a grid. To play, take turns turning over two cards. If the fraction picture matches the fraction symbol, the player keeps the cards. If not, the player replaces the cards. Play continues until all the cards have been matched.