

Synopsis

Although many students have an understanding of what a “fair share” is in the primary grades, they are in third grade when the Common Core State Standards for Math (CCSSM) formally introduces them to the concept of fractions - also known as rational numbers. The hands-on activities in this unit are aligned to fourth grade standards and expand on what was taught in the third grade. The ideas of comparing, equivalence, estimating and classifying fractions will be addressed. Strategies include the use of visual, graphic and concrete models. A Frayer model is also used with each lesson to help students internalize math vocabulary. All activities can be modified to address the need to differentiate within a heterogeneous group setting. The activities are designed to be completed during the math period in small learning communities with peer assistance, but can be adapted for a whole class setting, for small group procedural fluency practice, or for skill building within math intervention groups.