

**May 27, 2009 Network Meeting**

**IMPROVING OUR CRAFT AS**  
**COACHES**

*“Put one Foot in Front of the Other”  
.... slowly, carefully, strategically...*

*Norms..... The Social  
Culture of Our Network*

*SEEK to UNDERSTAND*

*RESPECTFULLY SPEAK your TRUTH*

*MONITOR your AIRTIME*

*NO ONE IS AS SMART AS ALL OF US  
TOGETHER*





# *Identifying a **Problem***

When we see deficits in understanding of a particular math concept that is as huge and widespread as what we have seen with students' **misconceptions around fractions, decimals, percents and proportional reasoning**, the task of learning how to address this issue seems **overwhelming**.

# *Moving Toward Solutions*

**What we are sharing with you today is  
some of the work we have started and**

**a plan or model that might be used to  
address similar problems**

**in understanding big mathematical ideas  
uncovered through our use of performance  
assessments to inform instruction.**



# How Might We Do This? One Way.....

- Look at the 6th, 7th, and 8th grade assessments to identify the big mathematical ideas with which most students are struggling. Choose the most glaring of the problem areas.
- Analyze the tasks and identify the key concepts students need to understand in order to solve the problem.
- In this problem area/strand, identify the roadblocks within the task(s) where students are having problems.
- Look at student work to identify successful strategies.
- Look at MARS released tasks across the grades to identify how these key concepts build from 2<sup>nd</sup> through 8<sup>th</sup> grades.

# Moving on.....Work with Colleagues(Coaches/Teachers)

- Use these tasks to design re-engagement prompts through the grades for teachers to use to develop these key concepts.
- Design a strategic plan across the grades to explore and develop key ideas that must be understood in order for students to be successful in 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grades. For example, what would instruction look like at each grade level?



# The Strategic Plan Should:

- **identify grade-appropriate strategies, materials, tasks, investigations and models** that would build understanding of the key mathematics of this concept that we expect students to have by 8<sup>th</sup> grade.
- **organize** these ideas by grade level(s)
- show the development of these ideas through the grades..... **how each connects/supports each other in developing the key ideas**
- develop a structure with colleagues to implement this work district wide

# This work can be .....

- **accomplished by:**
  - .....groups of coaches
  - .....started by coaches and developed  
with district teacher leaders and/  
or  
teachers
- **shared with** this collaborative of  
coaches to the benefit of all



# *Getting Started*

- We will **model** a way to get started today.
- We will start with one **GLARING problem**...the lack of understanding that has surfaced with tasks involving **fractions, decimals, percents, and proportional reasoning**.
- We will illustrate the power of incorporating **mathematical models** to build deeper understanding of key mathematical concepts.

A lone, leafless tree stands in a misty, hazy landscape with rolling hills and a field of tall grass in the foreground.

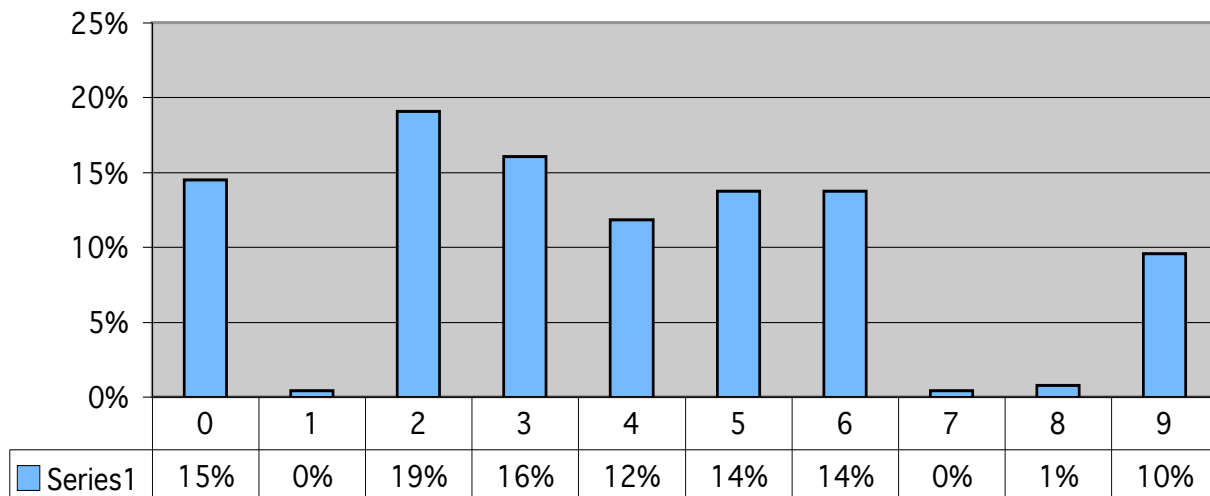
***What's the  
Evidence??***

***?***



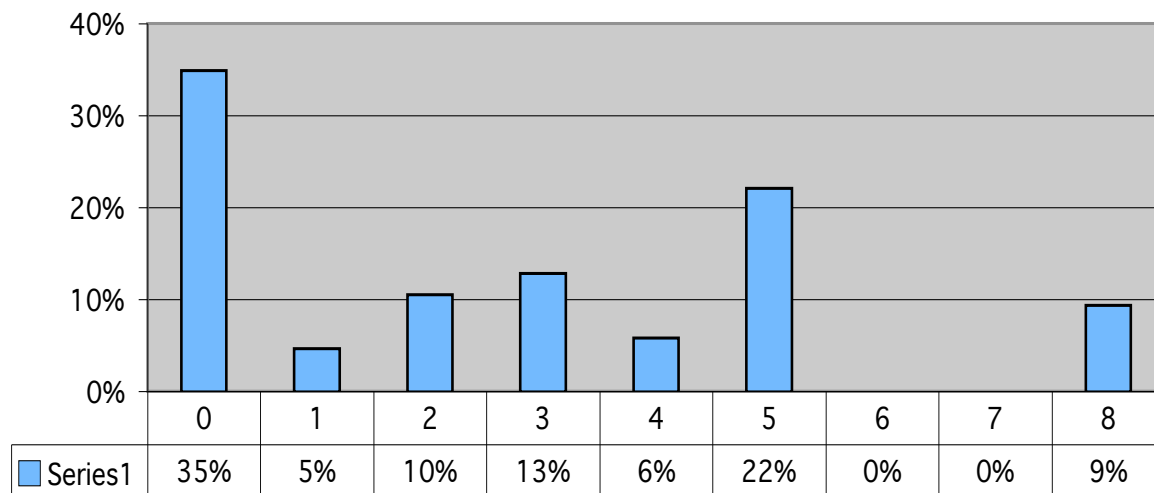
# '08 Sale 7th Grade

MARS 2008 Grade 7 Task 5  
Sale



# '08 At the Jewelry Store 8th Grade

MARS 2008 Grade 8 Task 1  
At the Jewelry Store

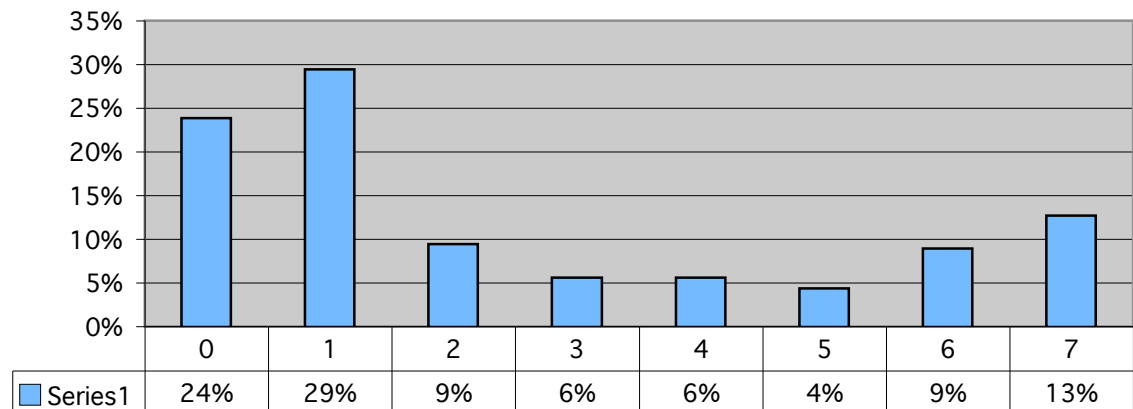




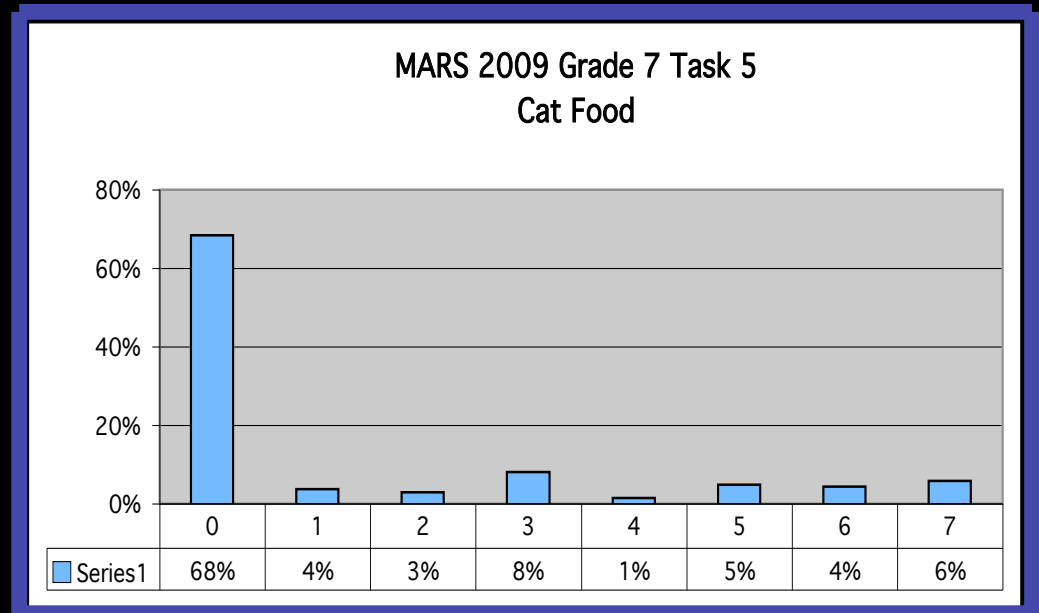
# “Leapfrog Fractions” 5th Grade 2009



MARS 2009 Grade 4 Task 4  
Leapfrog



# “Cat Food” 2009 7th Grade





# Today: What's going on with.....

## Fractions, Decimals, Percents, and Proportional Reasoning???

Step 1: **Examine** some 2008 tasks in 6th, 7th, and 8th grades related to these concepts.

- **Identify and record** the key mathematical understandings.
- **Look for** evidence of successful strategies and roadblocks.

**Share findings** whole group.

Step 2: **Look at** MARS tasks 2nd - 8th (1999 to 2009).

- **Record** all mathematical concepts relating to understanding of fractions, decimals, percents and proportional reasoning being assessed across the grades.
- **Connect** these to strands and grade level curriculums.

**Share findings** whole group.

# Getting Started - First Step

- Look at the 6th, 7th, and 8<sup>th</sup> grade '08 assessments and identify the big mathematical ideas with which most students are struggling around fractions, decimals, percents, and proportional reasoning.
- Analyze the tasks and identify the key concepts they need to have in order to solve the problem.
- In this problem area/strand, identify the roadblocks within the tasks, where are they having problems.
- Look at student work to identify successful strategies.
- Share out whole group.





## *Second Step*

- Look at MARS released tasks across the grades to **identify how these key concepts look from 2<sup>nd</sup> through 8<sup>th</sup> grades.**
- **Share out whole group.**



# What *Roadblocks* Interfere With Understanding of Fractions, Decimals, Percents, and Proportional Reasoning?

- seeing **equal parts of a whole**
- **keeping track** of *the whole*
- understanding **relationships** between different **numerical representations**
- **not labeling** parts and whole

## What Can *Help*?

- using **models** to develop conceptual understanding
- **labeling**
- other ideas.....



# Can Mathematical Models Help?

Yes..... Maybe.....



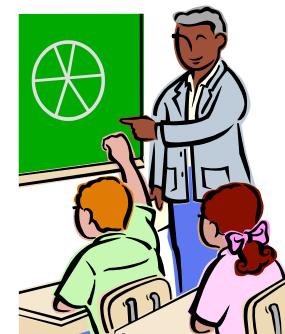
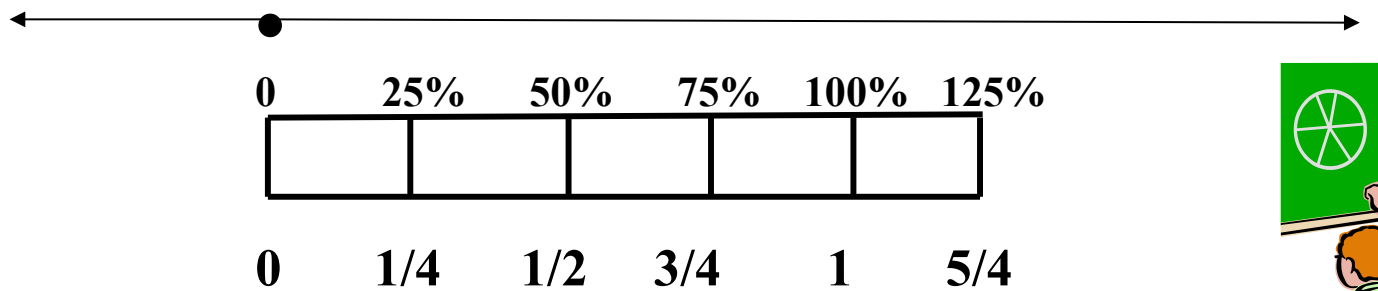
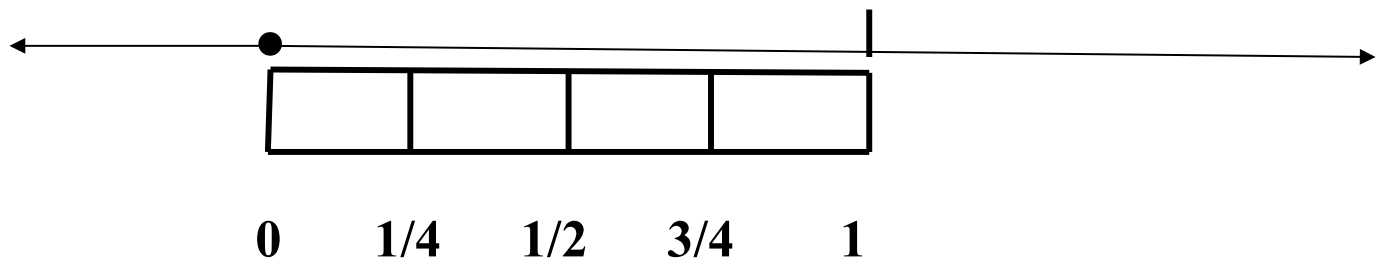
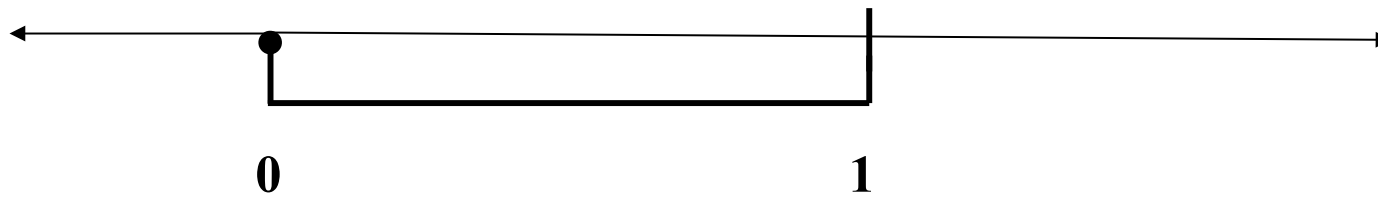
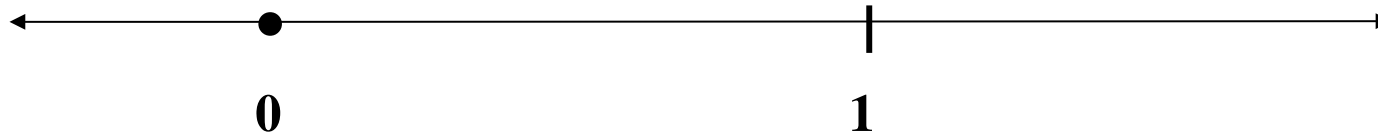
# Yes, if the model....

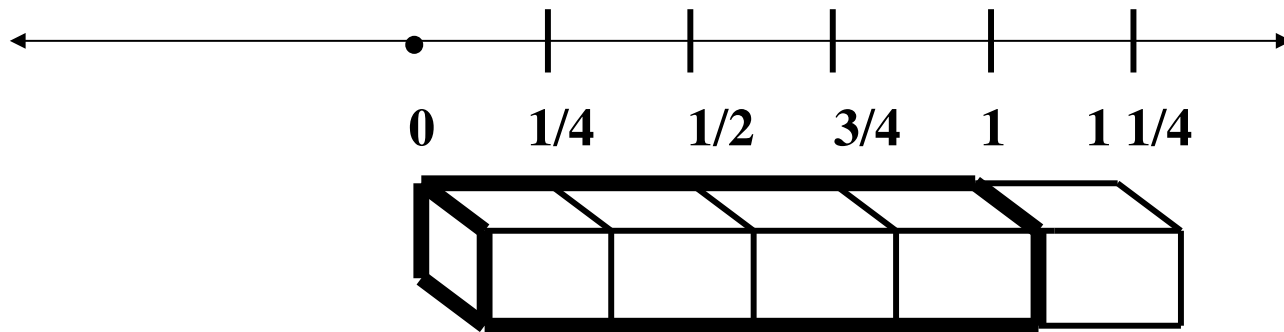
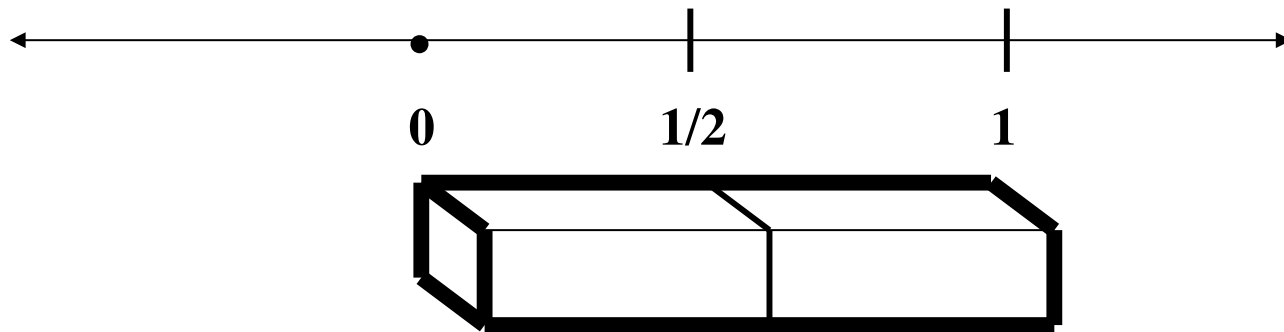
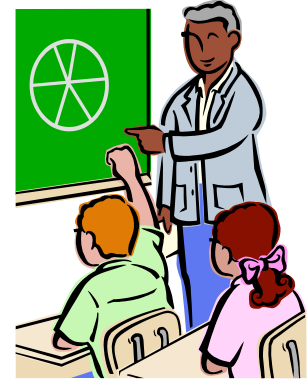
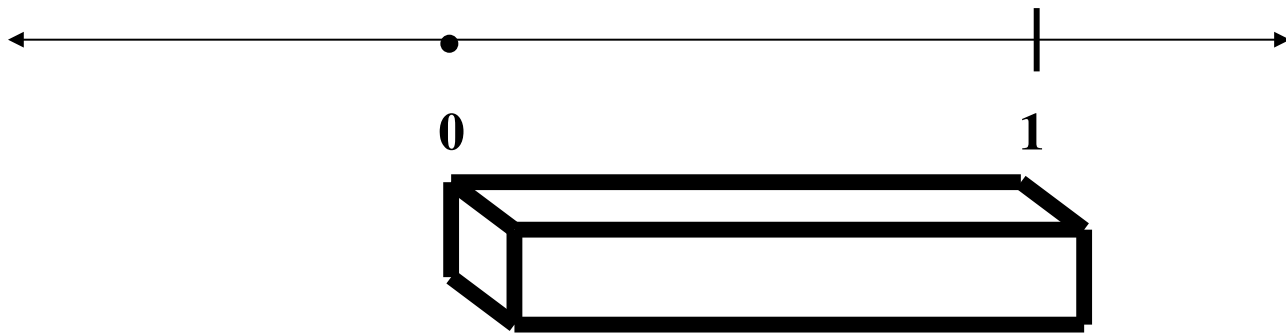


- is **appropriate** to the problem  
....how **do** we determine  
appropriateness?.....
- is **easy to understand**
  - gives **visual access**  
to understanding  
the problem



# Number Line to Bar Model







# A NOTE ON ACCESS....

A number of researchers have worked to learn more about the relationship between pedagogy and mathematics achievement....

Ladson-Billings (1994-1995) argues that students whose teachers use Culturally Relevant Pedagogy will achieve more academically, will demonstrate cultural competence and will understand and critique the existing social order.

Langlie, Mary  
Northeastern University  
Boston, Massachusetts  
May, 2008

# Making Sense of “Cat Food”

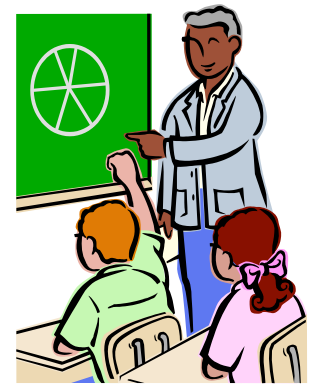
## 2009 7th Grade

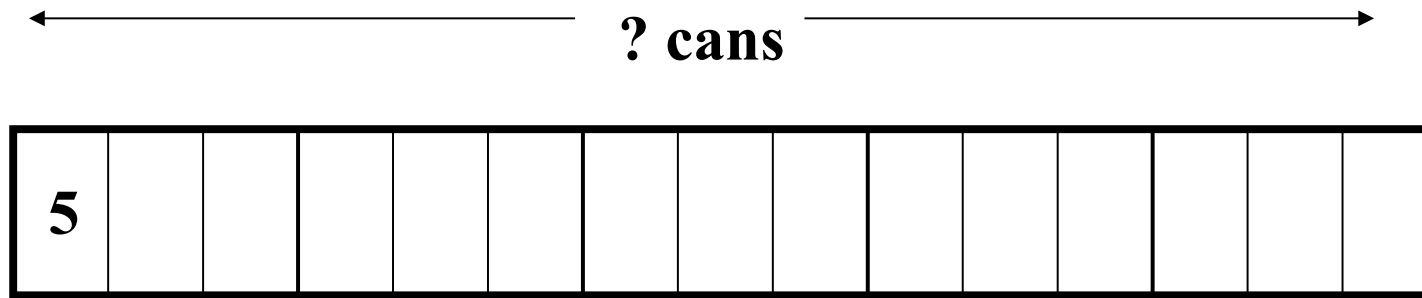
—

|

4

← ? groups of →





**5 cans x 15 groups of 4 days = 75 cans**

- **The first step is to find the total number of cans of cat food needed for the two cats.**
- **The next step is to find out how many packages of cat food are needed.**
- **The final step is to find the cost.**





←————— **75 cans** —————→



←————— **? groups** —————→

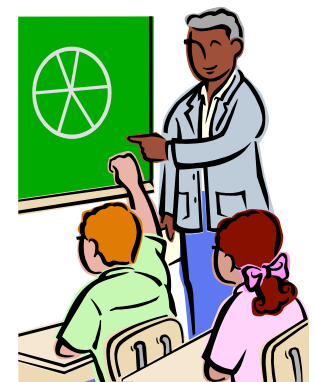
**75 cans ÷ 3 cans per package = 25 packages**

←————— **? \$ cost** —————→



←————— **25 packages** —————→

**25 packages x \$ 5 = \$ 125**



OR

75

---

$$75 \text{ cans} \div 3 \text{ cans} = 25 \text{ packages packages}$$

$$25 \text{ packages} \times \$ 5 = \$125$$

OR

$$\frac{5}{4} \times 60 \text{ days} = \frac{300}{4} = 75 \text{ cans}$$

$$75 \text{ cans} \div 3 \text{ cans} = 25 \text{ packages}$$

$$25 \text{ packages} \times \$ 5 = \$125$$



Two other ways you can set up the relationship between number of cans and number of days are:

$$\begin{array}{r}
 \underline{4 \text{ days}} \times 15 = \underline{60 \text{ days}} \\
 5 \text{ cans} \times 15 \quad \boxed{75} \text{ cans}
 \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r}
 \underline{4 \text{ days}} = \underline{5 \text{ cans}} \quad \underline{4 \div 4 = 1} \quad \underline{1 \times 5 = 5} \\
 60 \text{ days} \quad \boxed{75 \text{ cans}} \quad 60 \div 4 \quad 15 \quad 15 \times 5 \quad \boxed{75}
 \end{array}$$







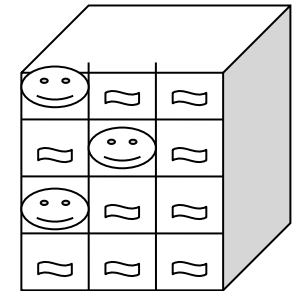
# “Filing Cabinets” 2009

## 5th Grade

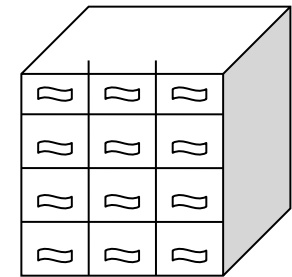
This filing cabinet takes up too much space, so the school clerical assistant is putting the data onto a computer.

As she completes each drawer she puts a smiley sticker onto the drawer

1. What fraction of the cabinet has she completed? Write this as a decimal.



2. Draw a smiley face on the drawers to show what the cabinet might look like when she has completed half of the records. Write this as a percent.

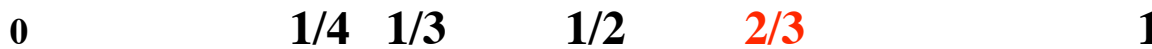
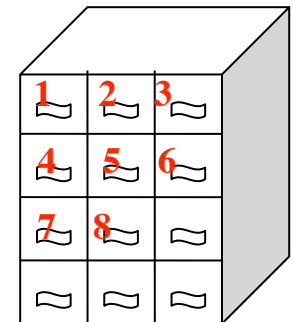
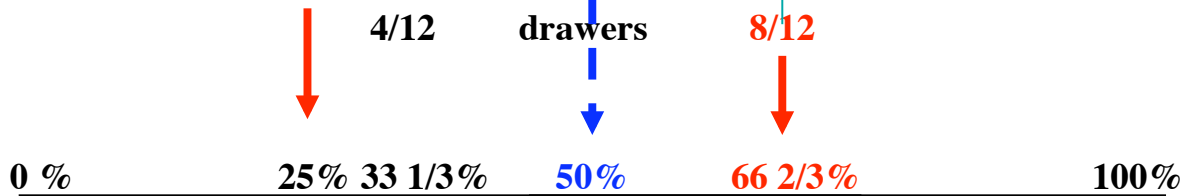
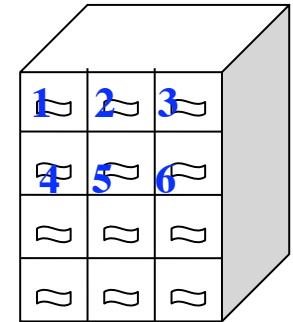
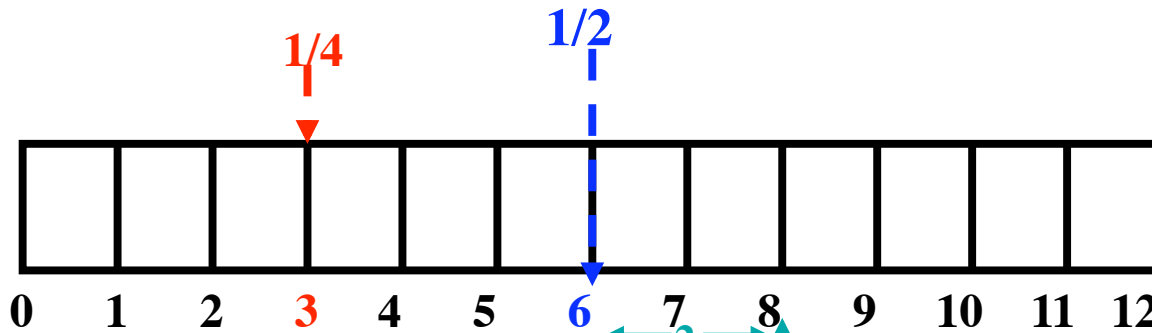
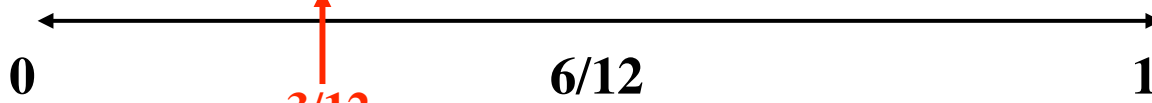
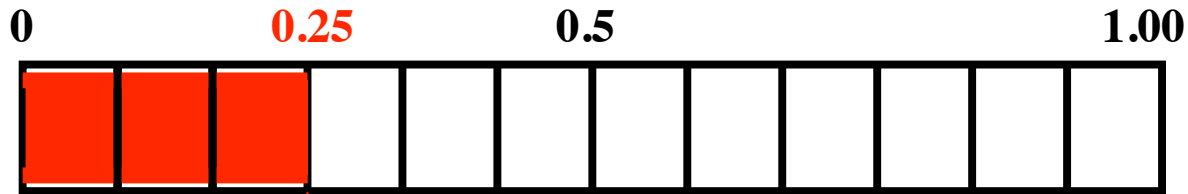
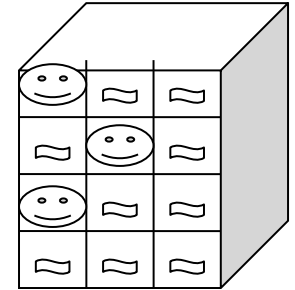


3. How many more drawers will she need to complete before she has done  $\frac{2}{3}$  of the work? \_\_\_\_\_ drawers





# Double Number Line

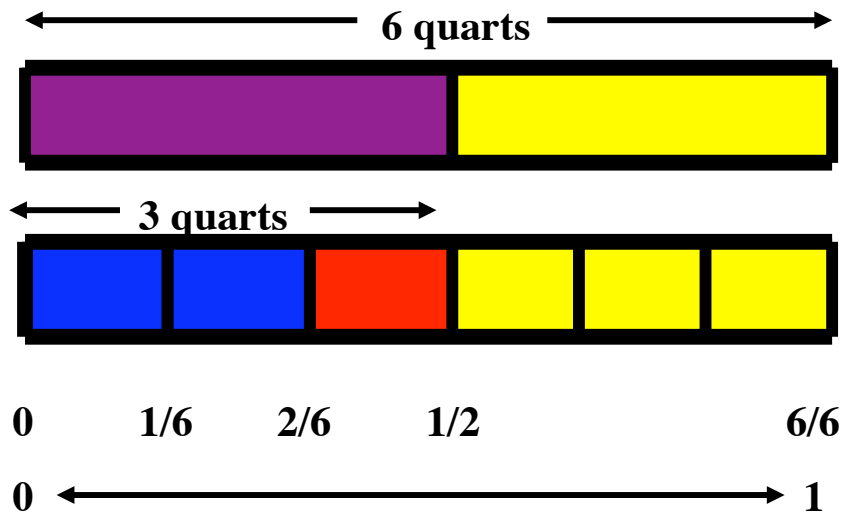


2/12 = 2 drawers more

# '03 Mixing Paints 7th Grade

Wayne is mixing paint. He makes 6 quarts of brown paint by mixing equal quantities of yellow and violet paint. The violet paint is made from one-third red paint and two-thirds blue paint.

1. How much red paint does he use?
3. How much blue paint does he use?
4. What percentage of the brown paint is made from blue paint?



$$\frac{2}{6} = \frac{1}{3} = \underline{\underline{33 \frac{1}{3} \%}}$$



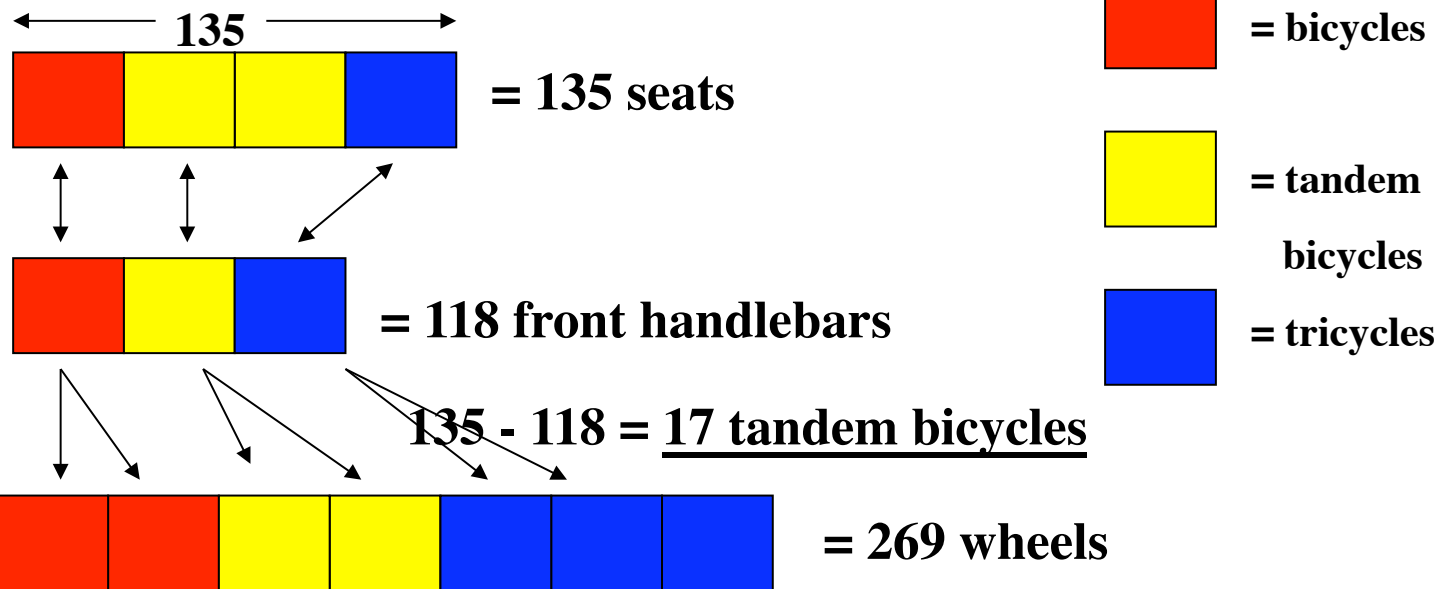
# “The Wheel Shop” - POM

Level C.....

Three months later some vehicles have sold and new models have been brought into the Wheel Shop. Now, there are a different number of bicycles, tandem bicycles, and tricycles in the shop. There are a total of 135 seats, 118 front handlebars (that steer the bike), and 269 wheels.

How many bicycles, tandem bicycles and tricycles are there in the Wheel Shop?





- = bicycles
- = tandem bicycles
- = tricycles

$$2 \times 118 = 236$$

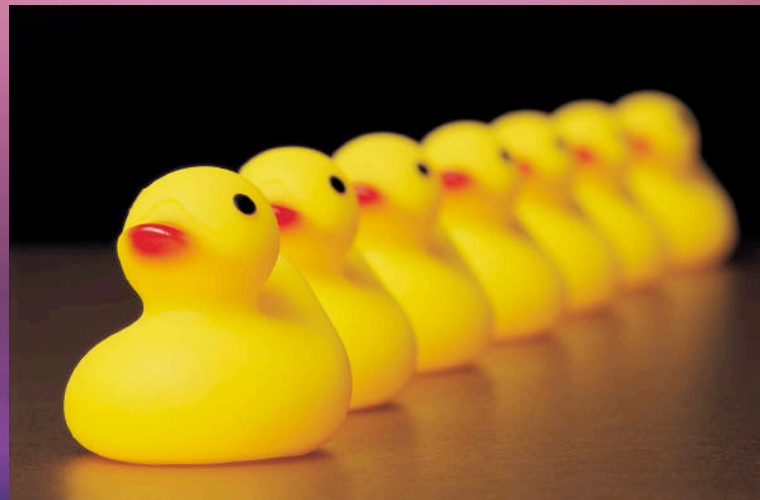
$$269 - 236 = \underline{33 \text{ tricycles}}$$

$$\text{bicycles} + 17 + 33 = 118$$

$$118 - 50 = \underline{68 \text{ bicycles}}$$

# What Can Be Done For Professional Development?

Ideas by Sally.....



# **A Work in Progress.....**

## **Re-engagement on Fractions, Decimals, Percents, and Proportional Reasoning**

- **San Carlos Work**
- **Share the Project**



- Re- engagement
- Investigation

*“The Tile Shoppe”*

# “The Tile Shoppe”

This Investigation grew out of our look across the grades at the 2009 MARS exams.

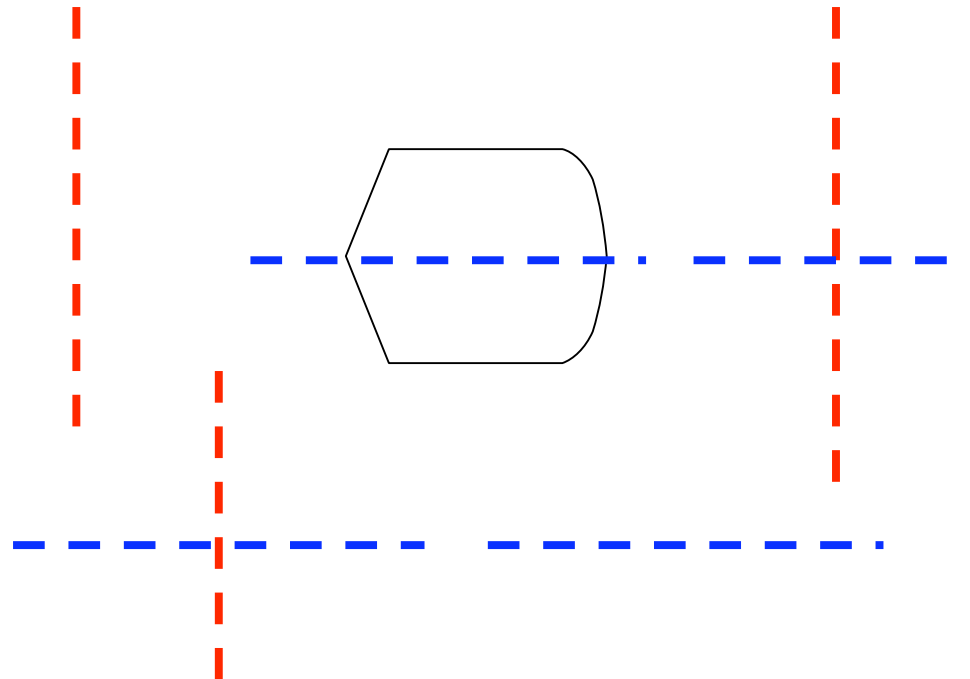
To be successful in making sense of fractions or **equal parts of a whole** in different tasks at many grades, students had to do things such as:

- divide shapes in half with a line
- know a diagonal line would divide a rectangle into equal parts.....
- use models to represent the whole and equal parts .....

# “Aunt Em’s Cookies” 2009 2nd Grade

Auntie Em is making interesting cookies for Holly and David. She wants to cut the cookies so each child gets half a cookie.

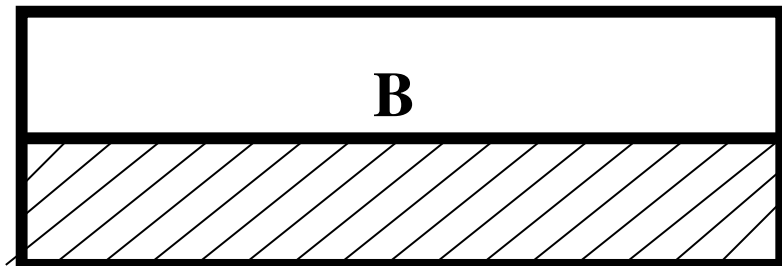
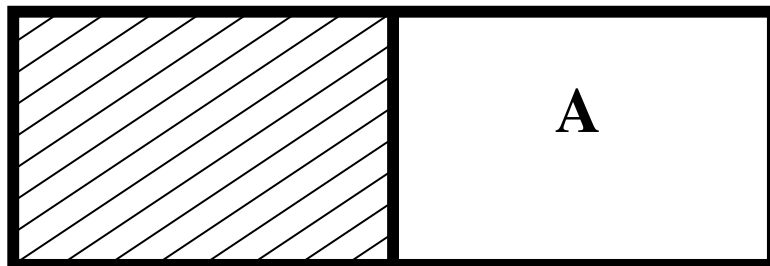
1. Use a dotted line to show Auntie Em how to cut each cookie below.



# “Fair Play” 2009 4th Grade

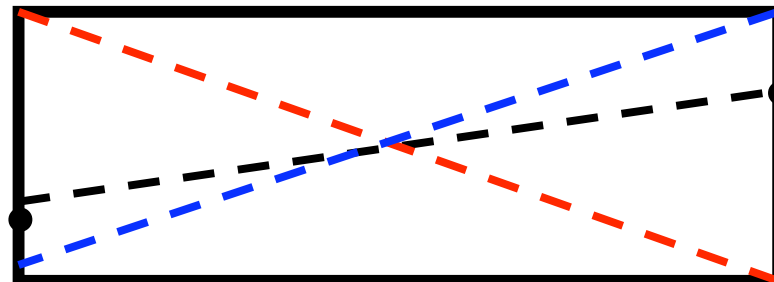


3. The girls say that the boys take up too much space with their ball games. They want the area to be split into two equal parts. Here are two possible ways of dividing the area.



.....

4. Draw a straight line that divides the play area into two equal parts in a **different** way.







# “Leapfrog Fractions” 2009 4th Grade

These leaping frogs are playing a fraction game.

They leap from lily pad to lily pad adding up the fractions as they go.

They have just three lily pads each.

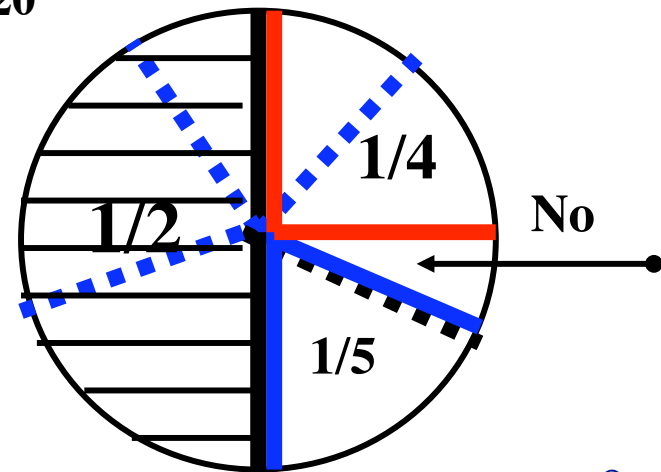
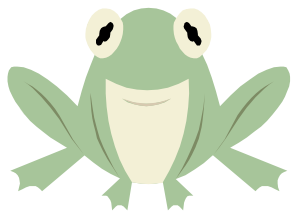
When they have counted up to one whole, and no more, they can reach the island in the center of the lake.

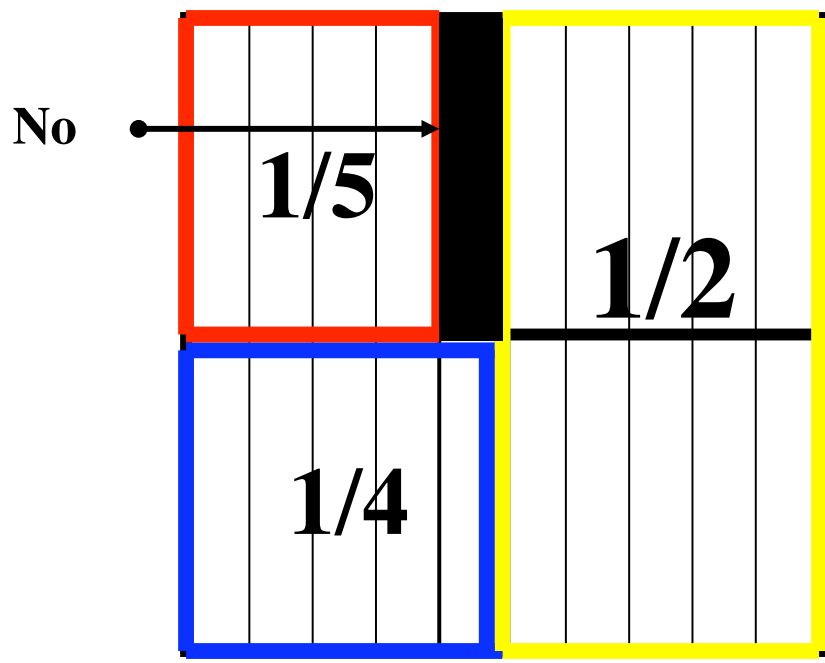
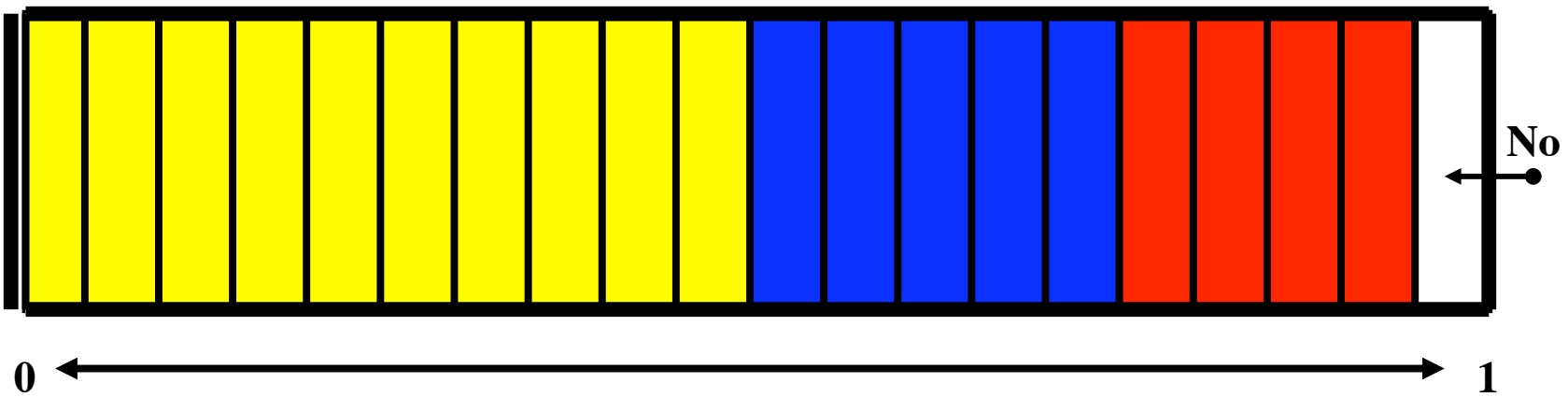
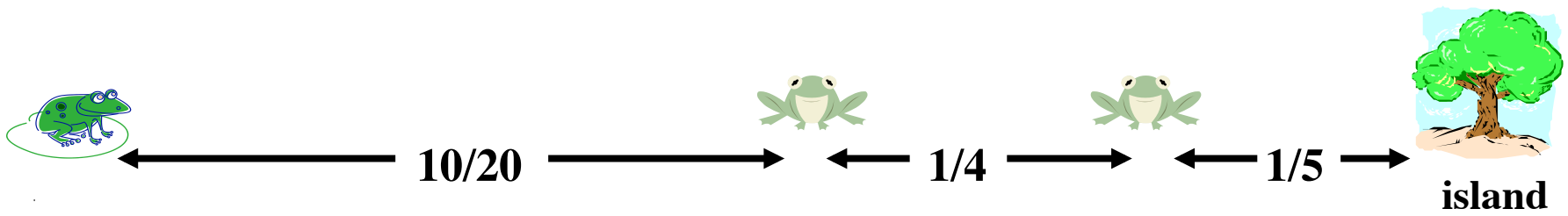


Frog Number 6 wants to join his friends on the island.

His three lily pads are:  $\frac{1}{4} + \frac{1}{5} + \frac{10}{20}$

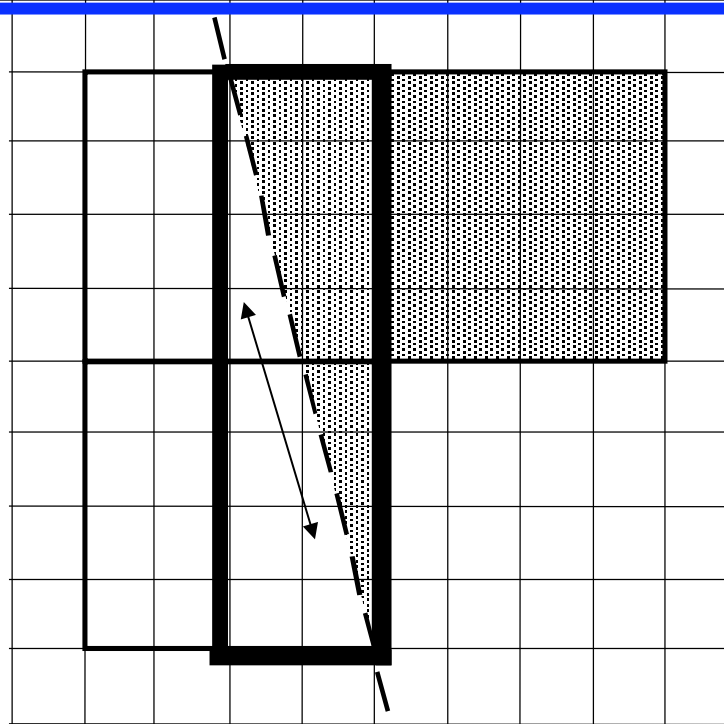
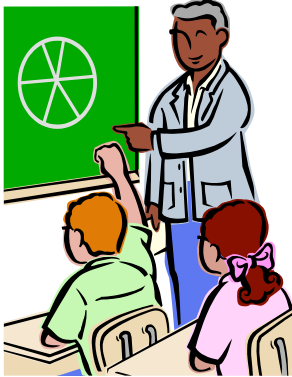
Can he make it?





$1/5 = 4/20$	= 19/20
$1/4 = 5/20$	
$1/2 = 10/20$	

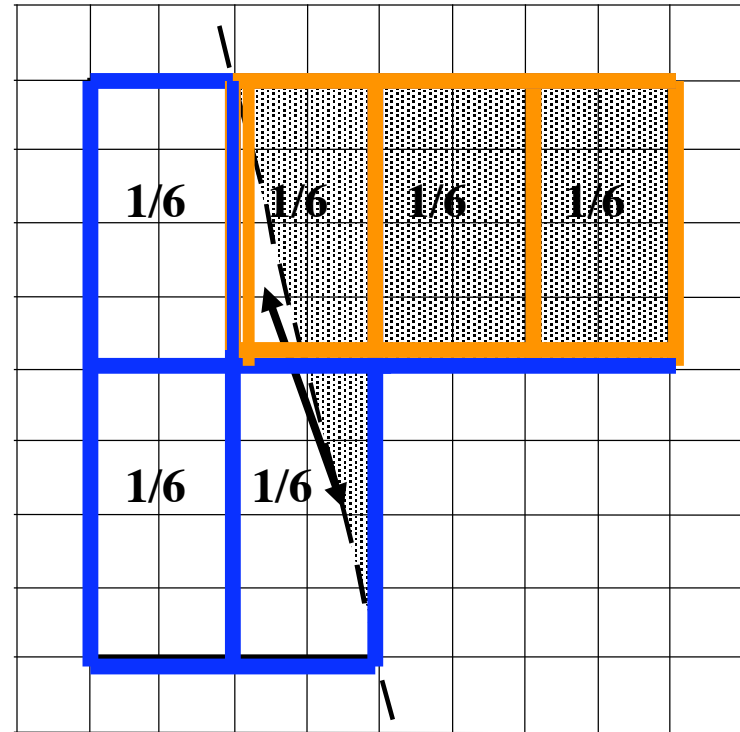
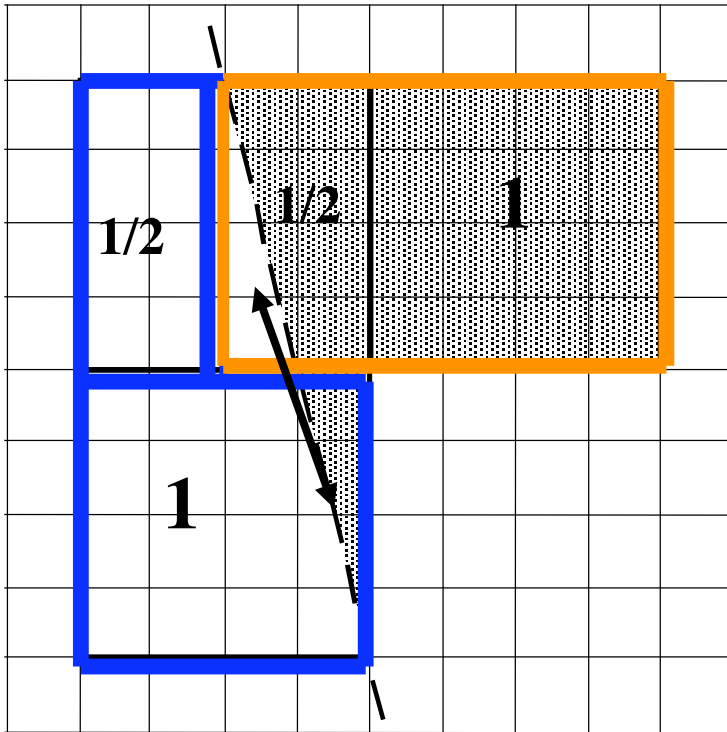
# “Halves” 2009 Grade 5



**Here is a shape made from three big squares.**

1. A straight line cuts the shape. Explain why the area shaded is equal to the area that is not shaded.

These are examples of how understanding that a diagonal divides a rectangle in half gives access to making sense of a half of this area.....



**1 1/2 is blue and 1 1/2 is orange**    **3/6 are blue and 3/6 are orange**



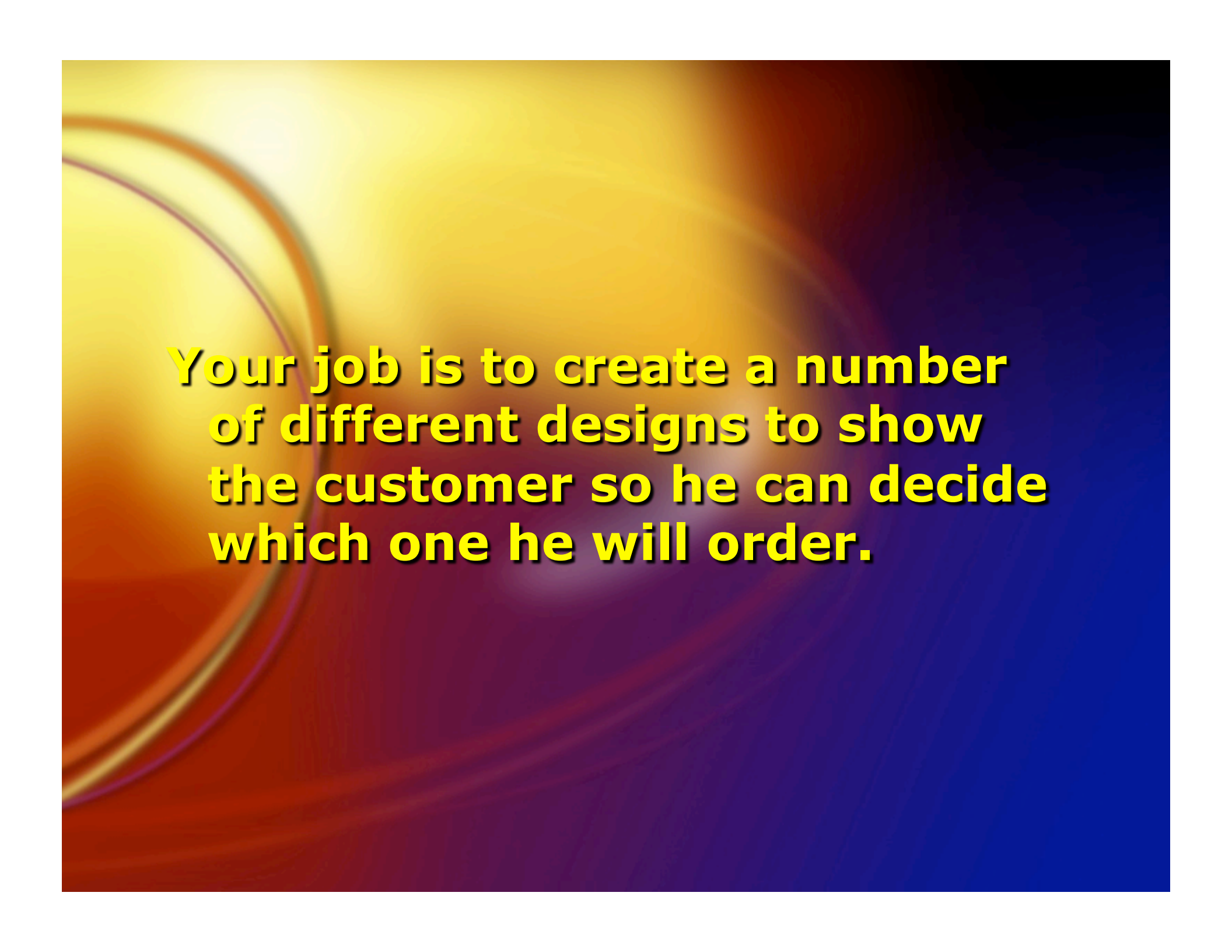
A decorative logo for 'The Tile Shoppe' designed to look like a stained glass window. The logo is a horizontal rectangle with pointed ends, filled with a complex pattern of colorful triangles and quadrilaterals in shades of red, orange, yellow, cyan, blue, and green. A central yellow rectangular panel contains the text 'The Tile Shoppe' in a black, italicized serif font. The background of the entire image is a gradient from light yellow on the left to dark blue on the right, with faint, curved lines suggesting a sun or moon.

*The Tile Shoppe*

# THE TILE SHOPPE

“You are the owner of a specialty shop that designs unique tile tops for tables. A customer has ordered a table top with specific requirements for the design. The border must be made of tiles that have a design in black and white, and the center section must be made of tiles that have a design with three or more different colors.

Because the tile colors have different costs, you need to be able to tell the customer the exact percent of each color in the border tile design and the fraction of each color in the center tile design. The customer provided you with a template that shows the overall tabletop layout with the number of tiles that will be needed in both the border and the center of the table design.



**Your job is to create a number of different designs to show the customer so he can decide which one he will order.**



# **The Key to Success on this Investigation is.....**

- **the knowledge that a diagonal line divides a square or rectangle into two equal pieces**
- **seeing the border as a whole and the center as a whole**
- **ability to represent parts of a whole as fractions and percents**

## Challenge Task:

Each square on the design plan represents one 8" by 8" tile. Find the total cost of the table top design in Tasks 1, 2, and your own design in Task 3 if the cost per 8" by 8" tile for the colors is as follows:

Black	= \$5.00
White, Yellow	= \$1.25
Red, Orange, Pink	= \$3.75
Blue, Green	= \$2.50

If you used additional colors for your own design in Task 3, list those colors below and decide on a price for each of these colors.



# Next.....

- **Individual Quiet Time for Quick Write** to record ideas of **tasks, models, investigations, lessons, materials** etc. that could be used to deepen student understanding and address misconceptions around fractions, decimals, percents and proportional reasoning.
- **Pair Share**
- **Group of Four Share**
- **As you share, make a list** of your group's ideas; we will collect and copy to give to everyone at a network meeting.
- **Group Round Robin Protocol**

# Next Steps .....



## *Work with Colleagues .....*

- Use these tasks to design re-engagement prompts through the grades to develop key concepts.
- Design a strategic plan to address the key ideas that must be understood at each grade level in order for students to be successful at 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grades. That is, what might this instruction look like at each grade level?

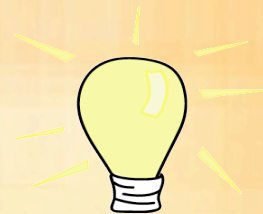


# The Strategic Plan Should:

- **identify grade-appropriate strategies, materials, tasks, investigations and models** that would build understanding of the key mathematics of this concept that we expect students to have by 8<sup>th</sup> grade.
- **organize** these ideas by grade level(s)
- show the development of these ideas through the grades..... **how each connects/supports each other in developing the key ideas**
- develop a structure with colleagues to implement this work district wide

# Afterwards.....

- **Continue thinking** about things to add to the list; brainstorm with your own teachers.
- **Bring back** ideas, examples of best practices (instructional ideas, materials, models, investigations etc.), strategic plans and re-engagement prompts to a future network meeting next school year **so we can put the work together in a format that might be useful to coaches.**





# What's the Gain?

**IF** . . . . we can help our **TEACHERS** to:

- **identify** **key concepts** from multiple strands that are connected to the understanding of fractions, decimals, and percents
- **identify** the **grade levels** where these are developed
- **broaden** **instruction** so students can **make connections** about the mathematical relationships between and among fractions, decimals and percents...

# What's the Gain?

**THEN...** we will have taken steps toward changing instructional practice in mathematics from “a mile wide and an inch deep” to teaching based on making connections and seeing relationships between big ideas in mathematics





**Working Together We Can  
Make a Difference**

**“Put one Foot in Front of the Other”  
.... slowly, carefully, strategically...**