

Chapter 6 Percent

Dear Family,

In this chapter, your student will practice working with percents. Some of the skills your student will use are:

- writing fractions as percents or decimals, and vice versa
- using percents to compare quantities
- finding a whole, given a percent of the whole

Activity

You can help your student practice working with percents.

- With your student, discuss the amount of time there is in a particular part of a day, such as between arriving home from school and going to bed on a typical Monday. Call this amount of time 100%.
- Together, write down how much time your student uses for several different activities during this time, such as eating dinner or completing homework.
- Express the time for each activity as a fraction. For example, if there are 5 hours between arriving home and going to bed, and 1 hour is for homework, write "Homework: $\frac{1}{5}$."
- Change each fraction to a percent. One way to do this is to multiply the numerator and the denominator of the fraction by the same number: $\frac{1}{5} \times \frac{20}{20} = \frac{20}{100} = 20\%$. Another way is to multiply the fraction by 100%: $\frac{1}{5} \times 100\% = \frac{100\%}{5} = 20\%$.
- Compare the percents and the fractions that you wrote. Which activity uses the greatest amount of time? Which uses the least?
- For extra practice, now consider the whole day, 24 hours, as 100%. Rewrite each time as a fraction with denominator 24, and convert each fraction to a percent.

Vocabulary to Practice

Percent is a way to express a quantity as part of one hundred. This makes it easy to compare quantities.

The **percent increase** of a number is found by adding a percent of the number to the original number. If the percent is subtracted instead of added, the **percent decrease** is found.

Interest is commonly expressed as a percent.



Online Resources

For additional Parent Resources my.hrw.com