

**Core Focus**


- Division: Developing language
- Common fractions: Identifying and representing one-half, one-third, and one-fourth
- Measurement: Area, mass, and capacity

**Division**

- Two division models are introduced through stories. In the *sharing* model, students know the total and they know the number of groups. Students find the number in each group while fairly sharing the total among the groups.
- In the *grouping* model, the total and number in each group is known. Students figure out how many equal groups of that size can be made from the total. This model may also be called *repeated subtraction*.

**12.2** Division: Developing language (grouping)

**Step In** These 12 dinosaurs like to dance in equal groups.



Imagine the dinosaurs danced in groups of 3.  
How many groups would there be? How do you know?

Imagine the dinosaurs danced in groups of 2.  
How many groups would there be? How do you know?

What other numbers could be in each equal group?  
How many groups would there be?

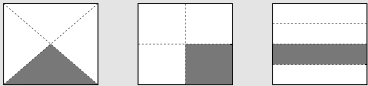
In this lesson, students develop language used in division, such as sharing and groups.

**Common fractions**

- Students visualize three simple fractions (one-half, one-third, and one-fourth) through folding paper, working with sets of objects, and dividing geometric shapes.
- Students see that fractions are proportional to the size of the whole (for example, one-half of a pizza is much larger than one-half of a cookie).
- Students also understand that the same fraction of identical wholes does not need to look the same.

**12.6** Common fractions: Representing the same fraction in different ways

**Step In** Look at these pictures.  
What amount of each shape is shaded?



What do you notice about each fraction?  
What is the same? What is different?

Each shape shows the same fraction.

The shape of the parts is different.

In this lesson, students represent the same fraction in different ways.

**Ideas for Home**

- Ask your child to find one-fourth, one-half, or one-third of a set of small items. Try 20 shared by 4, 18 shared by 3, and 14 shared by 2. Encourage your child to use fraction language to describe the shares (e.g. “one-fourth of 20 is 5”).
- Fold a rectangular piece of paper into eight equal parts. Challenge your child to color in one-half or one-fourth of the rectangle in as many ways as possible. You can also divide a rectangle into six equal parts to show one-half or one-third.

**Helpful video**

View these short one-minute videos to see these ideas in action.

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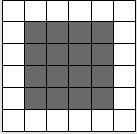
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### Area

- In informal activities, students estimate and count the number of squares in rectangular-shaped outlines using both customary and metric units of measure.

**12.8 Area: Drawing unit squares to determine area**

**Step In** What is a quick way to figure out the squares that the purple rectangle covers?

The purple rectangle covers 4 squares in each row. There are four rows, so that's 4, 8, 12, 16 squares in total.

In this lesson, students count the number of squares needed to cover the area of a rectangle.



### Mass

- Students develop a sense of how much objects weigh in pounds or in kilograms. They compare the mass of objects to determine which are lighter or heavier than one pound, or one kilogram.

**12.9 Mass: Introducing pounds**

**Step In** What are some things you know about one pound?

What are some things that are measured in pounds?  
What are some things that you think might weigh about one pound?

A short way to write pound is lb. It comes from the Roman unit, libra.

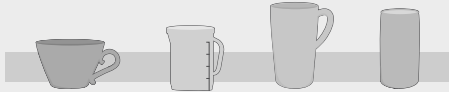
In this lesson, students are introduced to the pound.

### Capacity

- In Grade 1, students explored capacity. Now students learn about standard units to measure capacity: cups, pints, quarts, and liters.

**12.11 Capacity: Introducing cups, pints, and quarts**


**Step In** All of these containers can be called cups.



If a recipe told you to use a cup of flour, which container would you use? Why? Would it make any difference? How do you know?

In recipes, the word cup is a unit of measure. Even though all cup measures hold the same amount, they can be different shapes.

Where have you seen or heard the words pint and quart?



Cups, pints, and quarts are units of capacity. Capacity means how much a container can hold. So one pint of milk is the amount of milk that can fit in a one-pint bottle.

In this lesson, students use various units to measure the capacity of containers.

### Ideas for Home

- Find an item in your home that weighs one pound (for example, a bag of flour). Ask your child to find other items that weigh more, weigh less, and weigh about the same as one pound, comparing their items to the one pound item to decide. Confirm with a bathroom or kitchen scale.
- Encourage your child to help you in the kitchen, including measuring food or drink using cups, pints, or quarts. Simple tasks like preparing lemonade or measuring rice (and water for cooking it) can be excellent activities to work with measuring.
- At the grocery store, ask your child to find items that are labeled with pints, quarts, or liters to help them become familiar with the different units of measurement.