



FRACTIONS

OVERVIEW

Students will create an animation which demonstrates the concept of fractions and how these are written in mathematical terms.

SKILLS

Fractions - Students learn that shapes can be divided into equal parts, that each part will be equal to its counterpart(s) and that all combined parts will equal one whole.

Communication/Creative Writing - Students will take an important mathematical concept and explain it in visual terms, relating ideas to mathematical writing.

MATERIALS NEEDED

- Background information on fractions
- Sample ideas for visual communication of fractions (pizza, orange slices).
- Clay, wire and modeling tools to build models
- Materials for building animation (digital camera, software)

PROCESS

Discuss the concept of fractions with your students. Provide everyday examples of fractions, such as slices of pizza and individual orange segments, or squares of a chocolate bar.

Discuss the concept of less than 1, but greater than zero. Show how you can divide one object into many objects and how this translates into a written fraction.

For example, when one chocolate bar is separated into four pieces, each piece equals $\frac{1}{4}$ of the chocolate bar.

Have students choose a common object that would be easy to display as a fraction. Then, have them create a clay animation of that object dividing into different fractions.

RESOURCES

Teaching Fractions Easily

<http://www.teachers.net/lessons/posts/2077.html>





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CURRICULUM STANDARDS

NCTM Math Standards - Numbers and Operations

Understand numbers, ways of representing number, relationships among numbers and number systems.

Grades 3-5: All students should develop understanding of fractions as parts of unit wholes, as parts of a collection, as locations on number lines, and as divisions of whole numbers.

TECHNOLOGY STANDARDS

NETS - Technology Foundation Standards for All Students

Students use technology to enhance learning, increase productivity and promote creativity.

Students use productivity tools to collaborate in constructing technology-enhanced models, preparing publications, and producing other creative works. (Technology productivity tools)

Students use a variety of media and formats to communicate information and ideas to multiple audiences. (Technology communication tools)

