

School-Home Letter



Dear Family,

During the next few weeks, our math class will be learning how to multiply fractions by whole numbers. We will learn to write a fraction as a product of a whole number and a unit fraction, and to find multiples of unit fractions.

You can expect to see homework that provides practice multiplying fractions and whole numbers with and without using models.

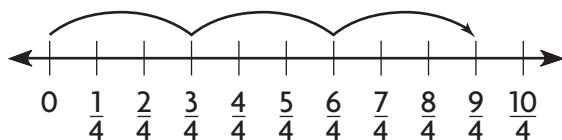
Here is a sample of how your child will be taught to use a number line to find multiples of a fraction.

Model Use a Number Line to Write Multiples of Fractions

Write $3 \times \frac{3}{4}$ as the product of a whole number and a unit fraction.

Step 1

Start at 0. Draw jumps to find multiples of $\frac{3}{4}$: $\frac{3}{4}$, $\frac{3}{4}$, $\frac{6}{4}$, $\frac{9}{4}$.



Step 2

Write the multiple as a product of a whole number and a unit fraction.

$$\text{So, } 3 \times \frac{3}{4} = \frac{9}{4} = 9 \times \frac{1}{4}.$$

Activity

Use everyday situations, such as cooking and measuring, to help your child practice fraction multiplication.

Vocabulary

mixed number A number represented by a whole number and a fraction

multiple A number that is the product of a given number and a counting number

unit fraction A fraction that has 1 as its top number or numerator

The Multilingual Glossary is available online.

TIPS

Look at the Numerator

To decide how to write a multiple as the product of a whole number and a unit fraction, look at the numerator. The numerator tells you the whole number that you need to use.

The numerator of $\frac{9}{4}$ is 9. So $\frac{9}{4} = 9 \times \frac{1}{4}$.