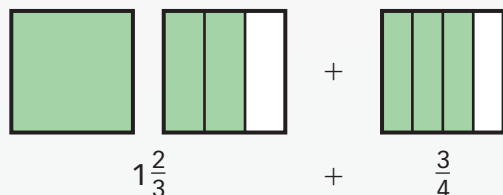


Dear Family,

This week your child is learning to add and subtract fractions.



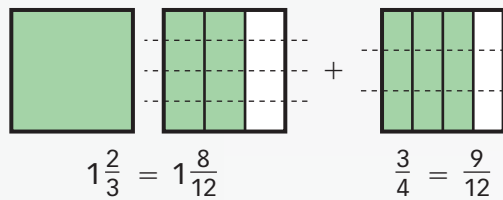
Here's how a model can show fraction addition, such as $1\frac{2}{3} + \frac{3}{4}$.



The denominators, 3 and 4, tell how many equal parts are in the whole. 3 and 4 are **unlike denominators**.

The parts of the whole are different sizes, thirds and fourths.

It doesn't make sense to add different-size parts, so divide the model to show equal-size parts, twelfths. Then add.



The denominator 12 tells that there are 12 equal parts in the whole. 12 and 12 are **like denominators**.

$$1\frac{8}{12} + \frac{9}{12} = 1\frac{17}{12}$$

$$1\frac{17}{12} \text{ can also be written as } 2\frac{5}{12}.$$

Some other ways your child can think about adding and subtracting fractions is to use a picture or a number line. Jump forward on the number line for addition and jump backward for subtraction.

Invite your child to share what he or she knows about adding and subtracting fractions by doing the following activity together.



Adding and Subtracting Fractions Activity

Work together with your child to solve real-life problems about adding and subtracting fractions.

- Suppose you want to make some healthy snacks and have $\frac{7}{8}$ cup of cream cheese and $\frac{3}{4}$ cup raisins.
- Look at the two recipes below. Add fractions to decide if there is enough cream cheese and raisins to make both recipes.
- Subtract fractions to determine how much of each ingredient you *may* have left over.

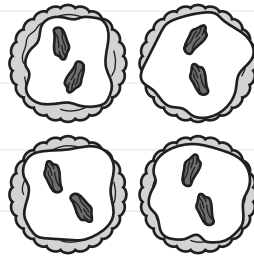
Recipe for Creamed Crackers

Ingredients:

6 crackers (any variety)

$\frac{1}{2}$ cup cream cheese

$\frac{1}{4}$ cup raisins



Directions:

Spread cream cheese evenly on crackers. Sprinkle with raisins.



Recipe for Celery Logs

Ingredients:

6 two-inch pieces of celery

$\frac{1}{3}$ cup cream cheese

$\frac{1}{8}$ cup raisins



Directions:

Spread cream cheese evenly on celery. Sprinkle with raisins.