

Introduction to Fractions — Fraction Circles

Base Sheet

Activity Sheet

The child is introduced to fractions using Montessori fraction circles (fraction insets). Starting with a whole circle, they discover halves, thirds, and fourths by fitting the pieces together.

What You Need:

- Montessori fraction circles (whole, halves, thirds, fourths)
- Fraction labels (1, 1/2, 1/3, 1/4)
- Work mat
- Paper and pencil for recording

Steps:

1. Present the whole fraction circle (red). 'This is ONE WHOLE circle.'
2. Present the halves (two equal pieces). 'When we cut a whole into TWO EQUAL pieces, each piece is called ONE HALF.' Write: 1/2
3. 'Two halves make one whole.' Assemble and disassemble.
4. Present thirds: 'Three EQUAL pieces. Each is ONE THIRD.' Write: 1/3.
5. Present fourths: 'Four equal pieces. Each is ONE FOURTH or ONE QUARTER.' Write: 1/4
6. Mix up the pieces! Child assembles each circle.
7. Compare: 'Which is bigger, one half or one fourth? Let us check!'

Work Space:



Montessori Homeschool • Print on US Letter (8.5 x 11") • Activity sheet — print on standard paper