

Eating Fractions

by Bruce McMillan
Scholastic, 1991

Vivid photographs of mouth-watering foods such as bananas, muffins, pizza, and strawberry pie introduce the concepts of halves, thirds, and fourths. Recipes are included so that you can prepare your own fraction feast.

Mathematical Concepts: Identifying fractions and fractional parts

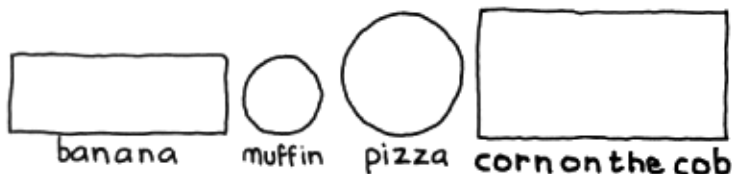
SHARED READING

○ Discuss with children how they would share food such as a pizza, an apple, or cake equally among four children. In their discussion, listen for an indication that children understand the concept of equal shares. Then show children the book and discuss the concepts of wholes, halves, thirds, and fourths presented in each picture.

○ Give each child these shapes cut from construction paper: yellow rectangle (banana), brown circle (muffin), larger red circle (pizza), and a larger yellow rectangle (corn on cob).

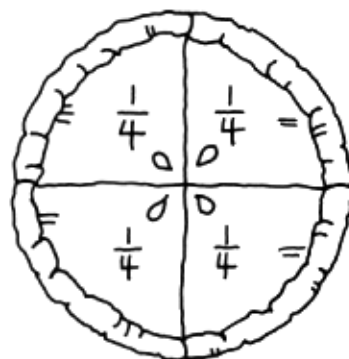
Reread the story and let children fold their paper cutouts to match the equal shares indicated in the photographs. Let children cut apart each shape along the creases, then match them to show "equal parts."

MATH ACTIVITIES



Fractional Foods

Let children look through magazines or food circulars for illustrations or photographs of food that can be shared equally. Children can decide how many equal portions they want to divide the food in their pictures into, fold the pictures, then draw lines along the folds to show equal parts. Help children label the parts of each picture with a fraction. Display children's pictures on a bulletin board.



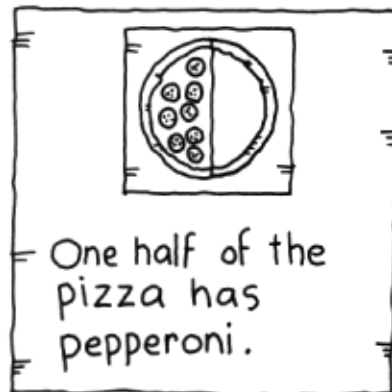
Pizza Party

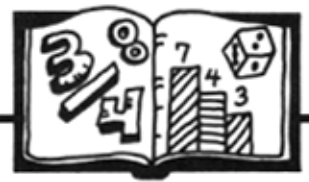
Each child will need Activity Sheet 37, crayons, scissors, paste, and four half-sheets of paper. Ask children to color and cut out the food parts at the bottom of their activity sheets, cut out the pizzas, "prepare the orders" as indicated, then paste them on half-sheets of paper. Ask children to write sentences describing their pizzas, as shown.

ACROSS THE CURRICULUM

Health/Nutrition

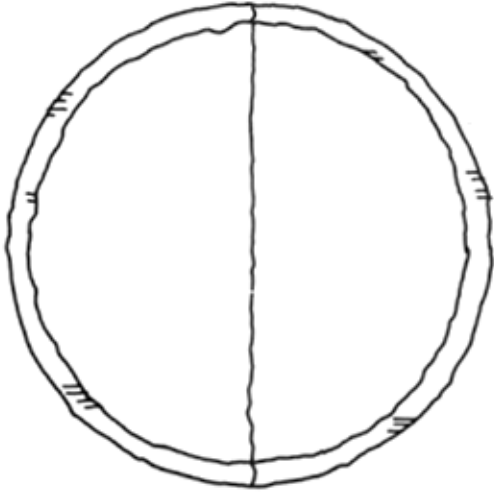
Prepare a "fractional snack" using one of the recipes at the back of this book. Before you cut the snack into equal parts, invite children's explanations of how the snack should be divided so that everyone gets the same amount.



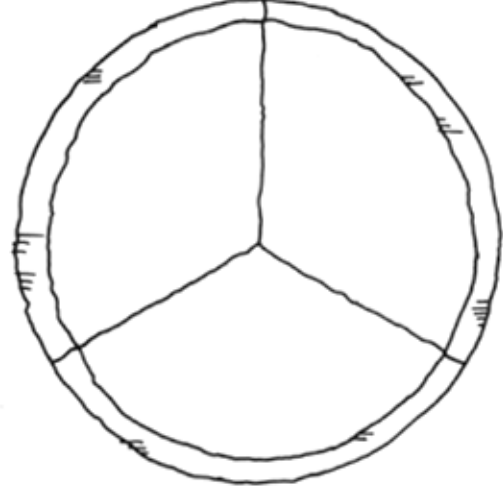


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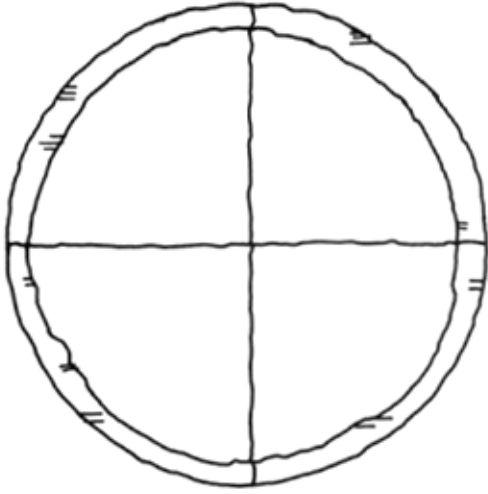
$\frac{1}{2}$ pepperoni pizza



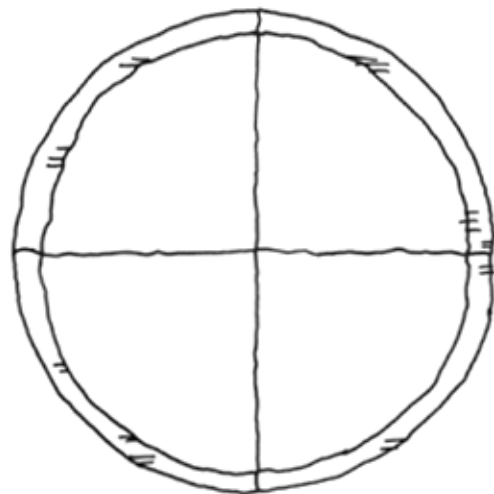
$\frac{2}{3}$ pepperoni pizza



$\frac{2}{4}$ mushroom pizza



$\frac{3}{4}$ mushroom pizza



Color these pepperonis red. Cut them out.



Color these mushrooms brown. Cut them out.

