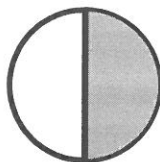


Lesson 1: Introduction to Fractions

Goals:

- Visualize the quantity that is represented by a fraction.
- Determine if two fractions are equivalent (equal).
- Reduce a fraction to its lowest terms.

A fraction represents a piece of a whole amount. Imagine you had a circle that was divided into two equal parts:



The circle represents the whole amount. In the circle above, one of the pieces is shaded grey. We can see that one half of the circle is grey.

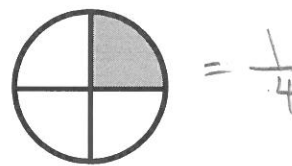
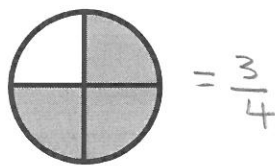
As a fractional representation, we use two digits.

- **Denominator:** The bottom digit of a fraction is the number of equal pieces a whole amount is divided into.
- **Numerator:** The top digit of a fraction is the number of pieces we are referring to.

In the circle above, $\frac{1}{2}$ of the circle is grey (think of "one out of two parts")

Example 1

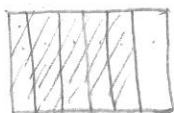
How much of each circle below is shaded in?



Example 2

Draw a picture that represents each of the following fractions:

a) $\frac{5}{6}$



b) $\frac{2}{3}$



c) $\frac{4}{4}$

