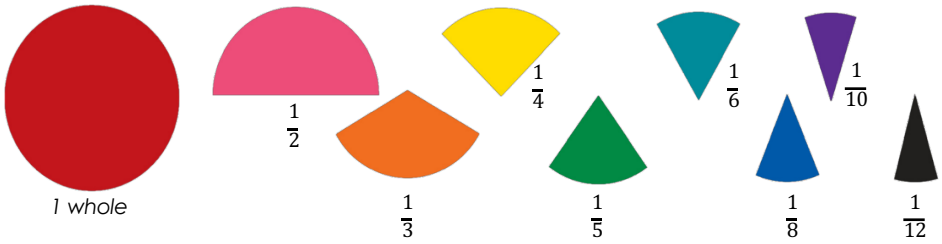
Rainbow Fraction® Circles



Rainbow Fraction Circles represent different fractions as part of a whole. They help your child understand how to compare and construct fractions, work with mixed numbers, and add/subtract fractions with like and unlike denominators. Rainbow Fraction Circles also help your child learn how to name fractions; relate fractions to a whole unit; compare and order fractions; show equivalent fractions, improper fractions and mixed numbers; and model operations involving fractions.

All Things Being Equal

Overview: In this activity, your child practices using Rainbow Fraction Circles to explore equivalent fractions.

Materials: Rainbow Fraction Circles, paper, pencil

- Have your child lay 1 pink Rainbow Fraction Circle on the table. Ask how many yellow Rainbow Fraction Circles will it take to cover the pink one? (2)
- Have your child write $\frac{1}{2} = \frac{2}{4}$.
- Ask your child what other pieces can be used to cover the pink Rainbow Fraction Circle? Have your child write all those equivalent fractions.
- Have your child repeat these steps with the orange, yellow, and green Rainbow Fraction Circles.

All Mixed Up

Overview: In this activity, your child practices adding fractions with different denominators.

Materials: Rainbow Fraction Circles, paper, pencil

- Have your child write $\frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{4}$ on your paper.
- Ask your child what they notice. (denominators are different)
- Have your child model this problem with your Rainbow Fraction Circles. Ask how can we name the answer if the Rainbow Fraction Circles have different denominators?
- Ask your child if they can rename 1 of the fractions in the problem so they both have the same denominator? $\frac{1}{2} = \frac{2}{4}$
- Now your child can name the answer. $\frac{3}{4}$
- Have your child try these problems: $\frac{2}{3} + \frac{5}{6}$ $\frac{5}{12} + \frac{1}{4}$ $\frac{3}{5} + \frac{3}{10}$ $\frac{3}{8} + \frac{1}{4}$