



DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
PUBLIC SCHOOLS

A Story of Units...

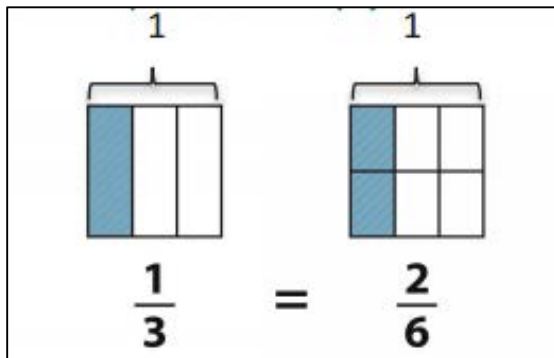
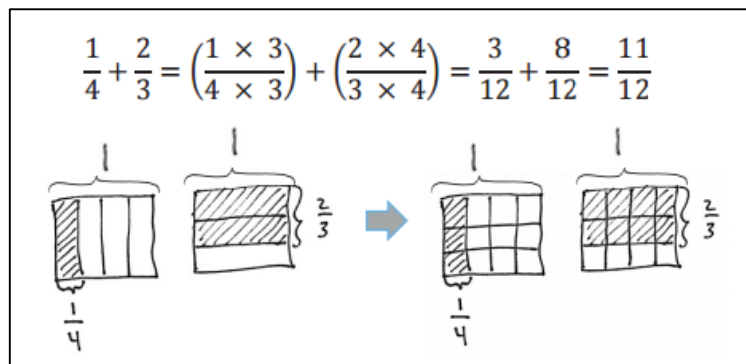
Adding and Subtracting Fractions

In the second quarter of fifth grade, math students will explore working with fractions that have different denominators and manipulating them to create a common denominator.

In Module 3 we will:

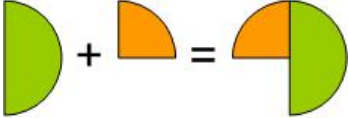
- **Add and subtract** fractions with unlike denominators by creating a common denominator
- **Solve** word problems involving addition and subtraction of fractions

Students will use diagrams like this one to demonstrate the addition process for fractions with different denominators. The grid system illustrates the discovery of a common denominator as the fraction represented as columns overlaps with the other fraction represented in rows.



The illustration on the left illustrates equivalent fractions as demonstrated using the rectangular fraction model.

Enrichment Activities

In school, your child will...	At home, your child can...
 $\frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{4} = \frac{3}{4}$ <p>Solve word problems using visual models to add and subtract fractions with unlike denominators.</p> <p>Identify equivalent fractions in sprints and word problems.</p>	<p>Solve riddles requiring fraction addition and subtraction, such as “if I spent half an hour cooking dinner and a quarter of an hour eating dinner, how much time did I spend on dinner in total?”</p> <p>Practice finding equivalent fractions to any fractions they come across - food sharing, progress on a video game, etc.</p>

Focus Standards for Mathematical Practice

- Make sense of problems and persevere in solving them
- Use reasoning to construct arguments and think about the reasoning of others
- Use tools strategically and appropriately
- Look for and make use of structure
- Look for and express regularity in repeated reasoning

Fluency Focus

Students will improve their ability to identify equivalent fractions through sprints and other fluency activities.

