

Dear Family,

During the next few weeks, our math class will be learning how to multiply fractions and mixed numbers by whole numbers. We will learn to write a fraction as a product of a whole number and a unit fraction, and to find multiples of unit fractions.

You can expect to see homework that provides practice multiplying fractions and whole numbers with and without using models.

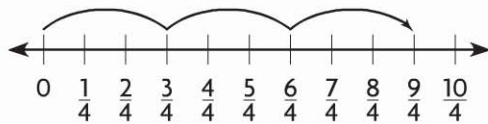
Here is a sample of how your child will be taught to use a number line to find multiples of a fraction.

MODEL Use a Number Line to Write Multiples of Fractions

Write $3 \times \frac{3}{4}$ as the product of a whole number and a unit fraction.

STEP 1

Start at 0. Draw jumps to find multiples of $\frac{3}{4}$: $\frac{3}{4}$, $\frac{6}{4}$, $\frac{9}{4}$.



STEP 2

Write the multiple as a product of a whole number and a unit fraction.

$$\text{So, } 3 \times \frac{3}{4} = \frac{9}{4} = 9 \times \frac{1}{4}.$$

Vocabulary

mixed number A number represented by a whole number and a fraction

multiple A number that is the product of a given number and a counting number

unit fraction A fraction that has 1 as its top number or numerator

Tips

Renaming as a Mixed Number

When the numerator is greater than the denominator, the fraction can be renamed as a mixed number.

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{9}{4} &= \frac{4}{4} + \frac{4}{4} + \frac{1}{4} \\ &= 2 + \frac{1}{4} \\ &= 2\frac{1}{4} \end{aligned}$$

Activity

Use everyday situations, such as cooking and measures to help your child practice fraction multiplication.