



# The “Smartie” Pant’s Introduction to Fractions

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Math  
Grades 3–5



## Introduction

Who doesn't like candy? Many types of candy come in several different colors or flavors. These different pieces are individual parts, but together they make the whole package (think Skittles, M&M's, or Dots). In this lesson, students will receive an introduction to fractions by identifying what portion of their bag of Smartie's is red, orange, yellow, green, blue, mauve, pink, and brown.

## Learning Objectives

[CCSS.Math.Content.3.NF.A.1](#) (Develop understanding of fractions as numbers)

- Understand a fraction  $1/b$  as the quantity formed by 1 part when a whole is partitioned into  $b$  equal parts
- Understand a fraction  $a/b$  as the quantity formed by  $a$  parts of size  $1/b$

## Materials Needed

- *The Hershey's Milk Chocolate Fractions Book* by Jerry Pallotta
- A package of Smartie's for each student
- Paper for recording
- iPad (optional)

## Procedure

1. Show students a picture of an unwrapped Hershey's chocolate bar (or the real thing)! Ask students what they notice about it. Wait for the answer describing how it is sectioned into different parts. Tell students that each section is its own part that comes together to make up the whole candy bar.
2. Read *The Hershey's Milk Chocolate Fractions Book* by Jerry Pallotta. Afterwards, tell students that today they are going to do their math practice using candy.
3. Pass out a roll of Smartie's to every student (or other multi-colored candy works too). Have students open up their package and record on a piece of paper how many of each color they have. They should write their answer as a fraction such as  $4/10$  reds and  $3/10$  yellows.
4. Once students have written eight fractions on their paper (including for colors that weren't in the roll), they should use an iPad to take a picture of their responses along with the piece of candy (this will eliminate students from snacking too early). Once students have taken their picture, they may enjoy their candy!

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**Option:** If your class uses Seesaw, ClassDojo, or another learning platform, have students submit their photo there for grading.

## Evaluation

Submitted photos should be graded for the follow areas of completion:

- Eight fractions written down on paper, including fractions for any colors that were not present in the package (red, orange, yellow, green, blue, mauve, pink, and brown)
- Photo of Smartie’s
- Neatness and engagement in the lesson