

Halves, Thirds and Quarters

2nd Grade

Equal parts — and why 'equal' is the word that matters most.

A FRACTION

- All the parts are exactly equal
- Cut into 2 → halves
- Cut into 3 → thirds
- Cut into 4 → quarters
- The bottom number counts the parts

NOT A FRACTION

- The parts are different sizes
- One big piece and one small
- "I want the bigger half"
- Uneven slices of pizza
- Same number of pieces, unequal share

THE DIFFERENCE THAT MATTERS

Four pieces are only quarters if all four are identical. Otherwise they are just four pieces.

A bigger bottom number means smaller pieces. A quarter is smaller than a half.