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Miss Bloom runs the Strawberry Inn. Follow along as she fills her rooms with five remarkable guests.

Ages: 5 to 8 years

ATOS Reading Level: 2.9

Lexile: 530L

ISBN: 9780763641306

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Full House: An Invitation to Fractions

Will Miss Bloom fill the Strawberry Inn?

Topics: fractions, parts of a whole

Activities To Do Together:

Use *Full House: An Invitation to Fractions* to gently introduce children to the concept of fractions as parts of a set *and* parts of a whole.

Before reading the book:

- Explore fractions with your child. Cut an apple (or piece of paper) into equal-size pieces and ask your child what fraction of the apple (or paper) each piece represents. First cut it into halves, then fourths. Write the fractions down and explore what each number of the fraction represents.

While reading the book:

- As each guest arrives, notice that another light goes on in the windows of the Inn. This is shown in the small box in the lower right of the page along with the fraction that shows how many of the six rooms are full.

- Miss Bloom's guests share a strawberry cake that has been cut into six equal pieces. Each piece is one-sixth (1/6) of the whole cake. Ask your child how many pieces make up the whole cake.

When you have finished reading the story:

- Each new guest of the Inn fills another room which adds another one-sixth (1/6) until all of the rooms are full (6/6).

- Cut a piece of paper into 3 equal pieces. Reassemble the pieces to look like the original paper. How many 1/3 pieces are equal to the whole paper? Ask, "Why do you think 3/3 is equal to one whole?"

- Talk about real-life situations in which you use fractions, for example sharing food or toys, cooking, and traveling distances.

Early Math Project

Questions for Mathematical Thinking:

1. How did the guests at the inn make sure the cake was shared fairly with everyone?

2. When a pie is cut into four pieces, what fraction of the whole pie is each piece?

3. If Mom or Dad says, "give your brother half of your sandwich," what is the fraction in that statement? What does "half" mean? What does "half" look like, written as a fraction?

4. When has there been a time that you have used a fraction? Tell the story.

Early Math Project Resources:

Visit Full House Activities (www.earlymathca.org/full-house)

Follow this link or visit earlymathca.org/external-resources for additional online resources

Vocabulary

Math words found in the story:, miles per hour, whole

**Related Math Words:** denominator, fraction, numerator, part, set, whole

Words to Build Reading Comprehension: astonishing, Captain, Duchess, partake, potatoes au gratin, sapphires, scrumptious

Related Books: *The Lion's Share* by Matthew McElligott

Click this link to the World Catalog or enter bit.ly/48tgkk1 to find *Full House: An Invitation to Fractions* in the public library.

$$\frac{6}{6} = 1$$

Early Math Project
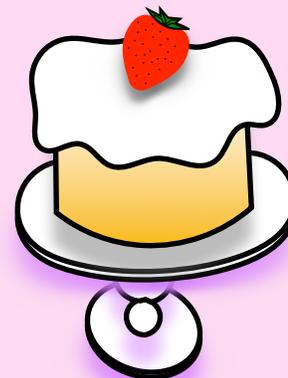
Math Connections: Use *Full House: An Invitation to Fractions* to introduce children to the concept of fractions as parts of a set and parts of a whole. The Strawberry Inn has a set of six rooms. As each guest arrives, one room is filled or one-sixth (1/6) of the Inn's rooms. Each new guest fills another room which adds another one-sixth (1/6). When six-sixths (6/6) of the rooms are occupied, the inn is full (one whole inn).

As each guest arrives, notice that another light goes on in the windows of the inn. If your child doesn't notice this on their own, draw their attention to the small box in the lower right of the page that shows the set of rooms and what fraction of the rooms are now filled.

As your child first explores fractions, leave the fractions in their original form. For example 3/6: you may be tempted to "reduce" or "rename" it to 1/2. This may take away meaning from the original fraction. This skill can be taught later, when children have more experience with the meaning of fractions.

At the end of the story, the guests and Miss Bloom share a strawberry cake that has been cut into six equal pieces. Each piece is one-sixth of the whole cake. Ask your child how many pieces make up the whole cake. Where do you see that number in the fractions?

Talk about other real-life situations in which you use fractions. For example if you share some cookies equally between three friends, each person gets one-third (1/3) of the cookies. As you explore fractions, encourage your child to write the fraction down and explain to you what each part of the fraction represents. Talk about fractions and where they might be useful.

Explore fractions with your child using apple slices, orange segments, play dough, pieces of food, and so on. Try to keep the pieces equal in size. You might start with one-half and then cut each half in half again to make fourths, naming each fraction as you go. Explore how many orange segments are in an orange. What fraction of the orange is one segment? How do you know? Do all oranges have the same number of segments?
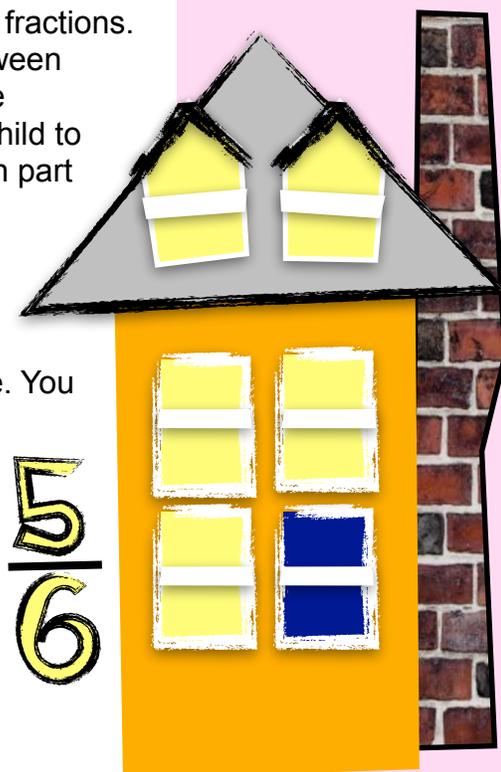
Age Level	Related CA State Methematics Standards
Kindergarten	**Counting and Cardinality K.CC.4, K.CC.5** Count to tell the number of objects.
Grade 1	**Geometry 1.G.3** Partition circles and rectangles into two and four equal shares, describe the shares using the words *halves, fourths,* and *quarters,* and use the phrases *half of, fourth of,* and *quarter of.*
Grade 2	**Geometry 2.G.3** Partition circles and rectangles into two, three, or four equal shares, describe the shares using the words *halves, thirds, half of, a third of,* etc., and describe the whole as two halves, three thirds, four fourths.
Grade 3	**Number and Operations-Fractions 3.NF.1** Develop understanding of fractions as numbers.