

Lesson 36 **NUMBER****Finding a half, a third and a quarter of a quantity**

WHAT THIS LESSON TEACHES

Finding a fraction of an amount means sharing that amount into equal groups and taking one group. The bottom number tells you how many equal groups to make.

- One quarter of 8 means 4 equal groups with 2 in each group.
- One half of 12 is 6 but one quarter of 12 is only 3.

MODEL THIS ON THE BOARD

ONE QUARTER OF 12 COUNTERS

- ① Start with 12 counters to share fairly among family.
- ② Make 4 equal groups because the bottom number of one quarter is 4.
- ③ Share the counters so each group gets the same amount with none left over.
- ④ Count the counters in just one group: there are 3.
- ⑤ So one quarter of 12 is 3.

DISCUSSION STARTER

REFLECT Does finding a fraction of a number feel more like sharing or like grouping?

ANSWER KEY

Scaffold: visual check on the page

Q1: 3

Q2: 2

Q3: 5

Q4: 3

a) Always — The bottom number 2 always tells you to make exactly 2 equal groups.

b) Always — Quarters make 4 groups so each group holds fewer than when making only 2 groups.

c) Never — Only amounts that split equally into 3 groups work with nothing remaining.

d) Always — This is the rule for finding any half, third or quarter of a quantity.

EXTENSION SHEET · STRETCH ANSWERS

Investigation: Fractions of our class — open-ended; scan pupils' working for valid solution paths rather than a single answer.