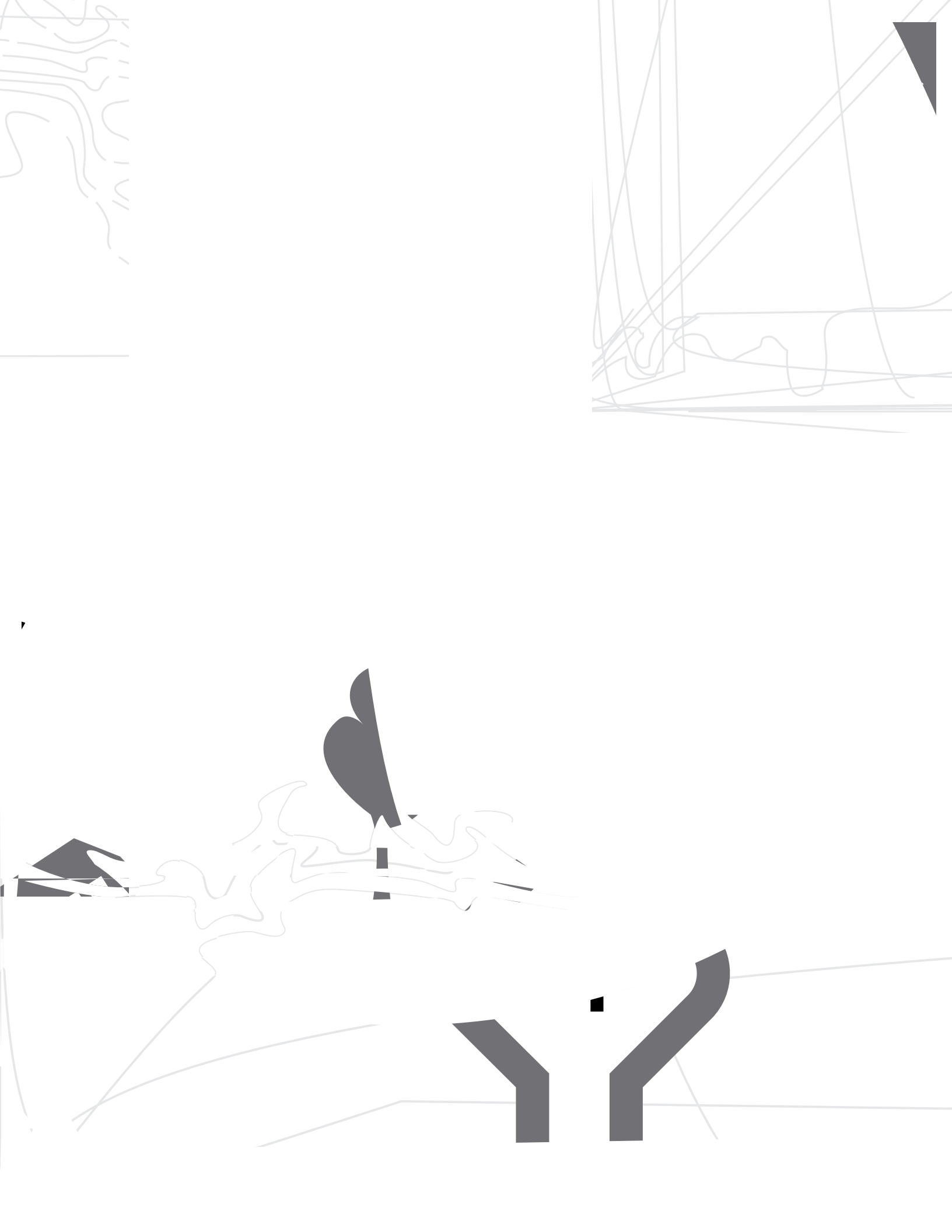


America's schools are working to provide higher quality instruction than ever before.

The way we taught students in the past simply does not prepare them for the higher demands of college and careers today and in the future. Your school and schools throughout the country are working to improve teaching and learning to ensure that all children will graduate high school with the skills they need to be successful.

In mathematics, this means three major changes. Teachers will concentrate on teaching a more focused set of major math concepts and skills. This will allow students time to master important ideas and skills in a more organized way throughout the year and from one grade to the next. It will also call for teachers to use rich and challenging math content and to engage students in solving real-world problems in order to inspire greater interest in mathematics.

What your child will be learning in grade four mathematics

In grade four, your child will use addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division to solve word problems, including problems involving measurement of volume, mass, and time. Students will continue to build their understanding of fractions—creating equal fractions, comparing the size of fractions, adding and subtracting fractions, and multiplying fractions by whole numbers. They will also start to understand the relationship between fractions and decimals. Activities in these areas will include:

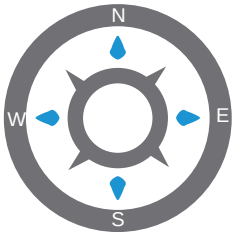
- 6 Y Y ^ c \ V c Y Y X h j c W i d] d a Z c j b W Z g h j e i d & b ^ a a ^ d c f
- H d k a c \ b j a i ^ " h i Z e l d g Y e g d W a Z b h ! ^ c X a j Y ^ c \ e g
  measurement and converting measurements from larger to smaller units
- B j a i ^ e a \ V c Y Y ^ k ^ Y ^ c \ b j a i ^ " Y ^ \ ^ i c j b W Z g h

Helping your child learn outside of school

1. Use everyday objects to allow your child to explore the concept of fractions. Fample, use measuring cups so students see how many times you have to re ll a 1/4 cup to equal a 1/2 cup Jg how many 1/3's are in two cups. Have students describe two fractions that are equal using a measuring cup (lling a 1/4 measuring cup twice is the same as lling one 1/2 measuring cup
2. Have your child write Jg describe fractions in di erent wys. F >>BDCample, what are some di erent wys to make 3/4? Answers could include 1/4+1/4+1/4 Jg 3 1/4
3. Ask your child create and describe equal fractions. Fample, have students take a sheet of paper, fold the paper in half, and then unfold and shade 1/2. Then have students take the same sheet of paper and fold the paper in a half again. Unfold the paper and have students discuss the number of parts that are now shaded. Encourage your child to talk about wys to show that 1/2 = 2/4. (Students may continue this process creating other equal fractions.)
4. Encourage your child to stick with it whenever a problem seems di cult. This will help your child see that everyone can learn math.

* #Eve^hZ ndjg X]^aY l]Zc]Z dg h]Z bV`Zh Vc Z the >>BDCcitement when he Jg she solves a problem Jg understands something for the rst time.

Additional Resources



For more information on the Common Core State Standards for mathematics, go to]iie/$$lll#XdgZhiVcYVgYh#dg\S i]Z"hiVcYVgYh$`Zn"ed^cih"^c"bVi]ZbVi^Xh or commoncoreworks.org.

For more information on the standards in mathematics related to place kVajZ CjbWZg VcY DeZgVi^dch ^c 7Vh Z IZc XdbbdcXdgZiddah#bZ$XViZ\dgn$egd\gZhh^dc

For more information on helping your child learn mathematics (with activities from pre-school to grade ve), go to]iie/$$lll'#ZY#\dk$eVgZcih$VXVYZb.^X$]Zae$