Bringing Mathematics Home 2



Fraction Activities with Color Tiles

With your grades K-3 children:

Take out a total of 12 color tiles in two colors (perhaps red and blue).

- A) Ask your child to determine whether the red tiles in the collection are "exactly half," "more than half," or "less than half" of the collection.
- B) Encourage your child to explain his/her reasoning.
- C) Ask the same set of questions for other fractions like one-third and one-fourth.
- D) Use 18 or 24 tiles in two colors and ask the same questions.

With your grades 4-8 children:

Take out a collection of color tiles using all four colors.

- A) Ask your child to name a fraction for each color in the collection.
- B) Encourage your child to find equivalent names for fractional parts when possible.
- C) Ask your child to explain his/her understanding of how one color can have more than one fractional name.

With your grades 9-12 children:

Pose some of the Color Tile Mystery problems to your child.

- A) Ask him/her to solve them both with and without color tiles.
- B) Ask him/her to explain his/her thinking when solving them without tiles.