

Converting Fractions, Decimals & Percents

Name: _____ Date: _____

LEARNING OBJECTIVE

Students will convert between fractions, decimals, and percents using a hand-made conversion wheel and real measurements.

MATERIALS NEEDED

- paper plate or circle drawn on cardstock
- ruler
- colored pencils
- scissors
- a small household object to measure (like a book or shoe)

HANDS-ON ACTIVITY

1. On a paper plate or cardboard circle, draw and divide the circle into 8 equal wedges using a ruler (mark the center and draw lines to the edge every 45 degrees).
2. Label each wedge with a fraction ($\frac{1}{8}$, $\frac{1}{4}$, $\frac{3}{8}$, $\frac{1}{2}$, $\frac{5}{8}$, $\frac{3}{4}$, $\frac{7}{8}$, 1) and, next to each, write its equivalent decimal and percent.
3. Measure the length of a household object in inches to the nearest $\frac{1}{4}$ inch (e.g., a book is $9\frac{3}{4}$ inches), then use your wheel to convert that fraction to a decimal and a percent of one foot (12 inches).
4. Color-code your wheel: use one color for fractions under $\frac{1}{2}$, another for exactly $\frac{1}{2}$, and a third for fractions over $\frac{1}{2}$.

QUESTIONS

1. What decimal and percent equal $\frac{3}{8}$?
-

2. What was the length of the object you measured, and what fraction of a foot is that?
-

3. Convert $\frac{5}{8}$ to a decimal and a percent, showing your division.
-

4. Explain the general steps for converting any fraction to a percent.
