



SAMPLE MATERIAL

Fractions With Cuisenaire Rods

Bryant Woods Elementary School, Maryland

Topic: Developing Effective Fractions Instruction for K-8

Practice: Initial Fraction Concepts

Students at Bryant Woods Elementary School use Cuisenaire Rods to learn about the parts of a whole and build a foundation to work with equivalent fractions. In this worksheet, meant to be completed in class, students answer questions about the rods' relative lengths and provide support for their answers. For each problem, the teacher reviews the solutions and guides discussion of students' "How do you know?" responses. The teacher uses the correct solutions for each problem to complete a chart on the board.

Fractions with Cuisenaire Rods

Name: _____ Date: _____

1. Start with the orange rod.

a. Which rod is $\frac{1}{2}$ of the orange rod? _____

How do you know?

b. Which rod is $\frac{1}{5}$ of the orange rod? _____

How do you know?

c. Which rod is $\frac{1}{10}$ of the orange rod? _____

How do you know?

2. Take out the brown rod.

a. Which rod is $\frac{1}{2}$ of the brown rod? _____

How do you know?

b. Which rod is $\frac{1}{4}$ of the brown rod? _____

How do you know?

c. Which rod is $\frac{1}{8}$ of the brown rod? _____

How do you know?





3. Take out the light green rod.
 - a. If the light green rod is $\frac{1}{3}$, which rod is the whole? _____
How do you know?
 - b. If the light green rod is $\frac{1}{3}$, which rod is $\frac{2}{3}$? _____
How do you know?
4. Take out the white rod.
 - a. If the white rod is $\frac{1}{5}$, which rod is the whole? _____
How do you know?
 - b. If the white rod is $\frac{1}{5}$, which rod is $\frac{2}{5}$? _____
How do you know?
5. Take out the dark green rod.
 - a. If the dark green rod is $\frac{3}{4}$, which rod is the whole? _____
How do you know?
 - b. If the dark green rod is $\frac{2}{3}$, which rod is the whole? _____
How do you know?