# EUREKA MATH™ TIPS FOR PARENTS

KEY CONCEPT OVERVIEW

During the next few days, our math class will explore equal parts. We will learn to look at the differences between shapes made from equal parts and shapes made from unequal parts. (See image at right.) Next, we will look at partitioned circles and rectangles and name their equal parts as either **halves** or **quarters**. Finally, we will compare halves and quarters of the same-sized whole and realize that as we break apart a whole into more equal shares, we create smaller and smaller units.
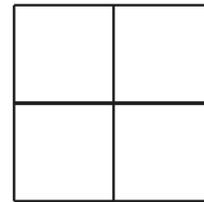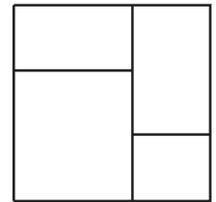
Equal Parts   **Non-equal Parts**

You can expect to see homework that asks your child to do the following:

- Identify shapes made from equal parts and count the number of equal parts.

- Draw lines to break a shape into equal parts and name the smaller shapes (e.g., break a rectangle into two equal parts and identify the parts as squares).

- Use the terms *halves*, *quarters*, and ***fourths***.

- Compare different-sized parts of a shape (e.g., one quarter of the circle is smaller than one half of the same circle).

SAMPLE PROBLEM   *(From Lesson 9)*

Color part of the shape to match its label. Circle the phrase that makes the statement true.

One half of the circle | is larger than / is smaller than / is the same size | one quarter of the circle.
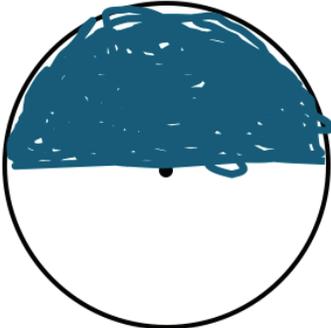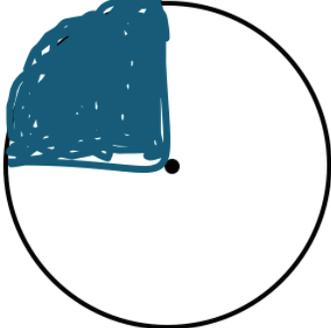
Additional sample problems with detailed answer steps are found in the *Eureka Math Homework Helpers* books. Learn more at GreatMinds.org.

HOW YOU CAN HELP AT HOME

- Look for shapes or objects made from parts and ask your child to determine whether they are equal parts or unequal parts. For example, when cutting sandwiches, intentionally cut 2 unequal parts to discuss why the 2 pieces are not called halves. Ask your child how you could have cut the sandwich to make equal parts.

- Explore halves and fourths (quarters) in paper crafts, particularly when folding or cutting. Ask your child, "How can we fold the paper to make sure our four parts will be equal? How can we fold the paper to ensure we have halves and not just two parts?"

- Explore equal parts with objects as well. Give your child a number of equally sized objects (e.g., 12 lima beans or 10 pennies) and ask her to show you how many different ways she can break the set of objects into equal parts. For example, when working with 8 beans, your child may make 2 equal parts by making 2 piles of 4 beans.

TERMS

Halves: When a whole is divided into two equal parts, the parts are halves.

Quarters or **Fourths:** When a whole is divided into four equal parts, the parts are quarters or fourths.