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Family Letter

Dear Parent or Guardian:

Fractions are all around us. We use them when we build houses, cook food, sew clothes, and measure distances. Understanding fractions and how to work with them is not only useful, but important in today's world.

In **Chapter 6, Applying Fractions**, your child will learn all about fractions and mixed numbers: estimating, adding, subtracting, multiplying, and dividing. Your child will also use the problem solving strategy eliminating possibilities. Finally, your child will solve equations including fractions. In the study of this chapter, your child will complete a variety of daily classroom assignments and activities and possibly produce a chapter project.

By signing this letter and returning it with your child, you agree to encourage your child by getting involved. Enclosed is an activity you can do with your child that practices how the math we will be learning in Chapter 6 might be tested. You may also wish to log on to **www.msmath2.com** for self-check quizzes and other study help. If you have any questions or comments, feel free to contact me at school.

Sincerely,

Signature of Parent or Guardian _____ Date _____

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Family Activity

State Test Practice

Fold the page along the dashed line. Work each problem on another piece of paper. Then unfold the page to check your work.

1. Ernesto is baking a double batch of cookies. To do this, he must first figure out how much of each ingredient to use since his recipe is only written for a single batch of cookies. The recipe calls for $3\frac{3}{4}$ cups of flour and $1\frac{1}{3}$ cups of sugar.

How much flour and sugar will Ernesto need to make the double batch of cookies?

- A $7\frac{1}{2}$ cups of flour and $2\frac{2}{3}$ cups of sugar
 B $6\frac{6}{8}$ cups of flour and $2\frac{2}{6}$ cups of sugar
 C $3\frac{3}{4}$ cups of flour and $3\frac{2}{3}$ cups of sugar
 D $6\frac{6}{4}$ cups of flour and $2\frac{2}{3}$ cups of sugar

Fold here.

Solution

1. *Hint: When you multiply fractions by a whole number, the result may be greater than 1.*

If you double $3\frac{3}{4}$, the result is: $3 \times 2 = 6$

and $\frac{3}{4} \times 2 = \frac{6}{4}$ or $1\frac{1}{2}$.

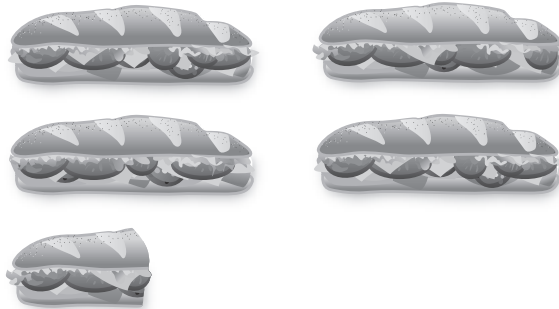
Adding, he will need $7\frac{1}{2}$ cups of flour.

For the sugar, $1 \times 2 = 2$ and $\frac{1}{3} \times 2 = \frac{2}{3}$,

so he will need $2\frac{2}{3}$ cups of sugar.

The answer is **A**.

2. Nicole has $4\frac{1}{2}$ six-inch subs to share with her friends. She is going to share equal parts of the subs with her 8 friends, leaving no leftovers. Use the graphic below to figure out how much each girl will get.



How many inches of sub will each girl get?

- A 2 in.
 B 3 in.
 C 4 in.
 D 5 in.

Solution

2. *Hint: Nicole is sharing with her 8 friends, but don't forget that Nicole is going to be eating the sandwich, too!*

From the graphic, there are $6 \times 4 + 3$, or 27 inches of sandwich to be shared. There are nine girls eating the sandwich (Nicole plus her 8 friends), so each girl will get $27 \div 9$, or 3 inches of sandwich.

OR

If you divide each whole sub in half, there are 9 equal pieces – 1 per girl. Each is three inches long.

The answer is **B**.