



Fifth Grade Parent Newsletter #8

This week we are reading “**The Ch'i-lin Purse**” by Linda Fang. Our reading skill focus will be identifying comparing and contrasting in a story. Our grammar focus will be action and linking verbs.

We will focus on some vocabulary words in this story. It would be helpful if you will reinforce the meaning of these words at home with your child. Please practice these words at home as well. Remember that this is a guide of what the word means. This is not the only definition for it!

Let's have a great week!

Vocabulary Word	Meaning
astonished	surprised greatly; amazed
behavior	manner of behaving; way of acting
benefactor	person who has given money or kindly help
distribution	act or process of giving some of to each; dividing and giving out in shares
gratitude	kindly feeling because of a favor received; desire to do a favor in return; thankfulness
procession	something that moves forward; persons marching or riding
recommend	to speak in favor of; suggest favorably
sacred	worthy of reverence
traditions	customs or beliefs handed down from generation to generation

snore	tornado	spare	appear	career	square
report	prepare	pioneer	chair	beware	smear
repair	sword	ignore	order	engineer	resort
volunteer	declare				

impair	directory	hardware	clearance	porpoise
--------	-----------	----------	-----------	----------

SCHOOL to HOME Connections

Chapter 4 Multiplying and Dividing Fractions and Mixed Numbers

Dear Family,

In this chapter, your child will learn to multiply and divide fractions and mixed numbers. The work will include:

- multiplying with proper and improper fractions and mixed numbers
- dividing fractions by whole numbers

Here is how we find $\frac{3}{4} \times \frac{8}{9}$.

Step 1: Multiply the numerators, then multiply the denominators.	Step 2: Simplify the product.
$\frac{3}{4} \times \frac{8}{9} = \frac{24}{36}$	$\frac{24}{36} = \frac{2}{3}$

Vocabulary to Practice

A **common factor** is a number that is a factor of two or more numbers.

A **proper fraction** has a numerator less than its denominator. Its value is less than 1.

An **improper fraction** has a numerator greater than or equal to its denominator.

A **mixed number** is made up of a whole number and a fraction.

$\frac{1}{5}$ is the **reciprocal** of $\frac{5}{1}$ or 5.

Activity

The following activity will encourage your child to express the concept behind multiplying fractions in his or her own words. Give your child a circular piece of paper and markers.

- Ask him or her to shade half the circle yellow. Then ask your child to shade $\frac{1}{4}$ of the yellow part in red.
- Now, ask your child to find the product of $\frac{1}{2}$ and $\frac{1}{4}$.
- Help your child see that the portion shaded red on the circular piece of paper is $\frac{1}{8}$ of the total circle because it is $\frac{1}{2} \times \frac{1}{4}$ of the circle.

