

Half a Cup, Quarter of a Cup

Elaboration 2 · Fractions in cooking measures

ELABORATION FOCUS

Investigating cup and spoon measures used in cooking, and using sand or water to compare half and quarter measures to a full cup.

LEARNING INTENTION I can show half and a quarter of a cup.

Fill it

Half a cup

Quarter cup

Compare

Cook it

1

Fill the Full Cup

Step 1: fill a cup to the top with sand. Step 2: that is one full cup.

2

Share It in Two

Step 3: tip the cup into 2 equal amounts. Step 4: each one is half a cup.

3

Share It Again

Step 5: halve each half again. Step 6: each one is a quarter of a cup.

MODEL · FILLING A CUP WITH SAND

The same cup is filled full, then half full, then a quarter full.



One full cup

The same cup filled to three levels



Half a cup



A quarter of a cup

Two half cups fill one full cup, and four quarter cups fill one full cup.

TEACHER MODELLING ROUTINE I do → We do → You do

WATCH FOR

Heaping the cup instead of levelling it, so half a cup is not really half.

REMEMBER

Say it to students as: "Two halves fill the cup right up."

MATERIALS

Measuring cups and spoons, sand, water, trays, recipe cards, funnels.