

ROLE OF THE DENOMINATOR - NUMBER WE DIVIDED BY.

INVESTIGATIONS OVERVIEW PAGE

THIS PAGE IS A SUMMARY OF THE INVESTIGATIONS THAT STUDENTS MAY ENGAGE IN TO DEEPEN THEIR RELATIONAL UNDERSTANDING.
INVESTIGATIONS WITH INSTRUCTIONS TO STUDENTS FOLLOW ON SUBSEQUENT PAGES.

- In pairs, children collect a small handful of counters. They halve or quarter the counters. They record a fraction number sentence. They record a division number sentence. They explain that the denominator 2 in a half tells us we are dividing by 2 and the denominator 4 in a quarter tells us we are dividing by 4. [Reflection: What does the denominator tell us?](#)

Role of the Denominator – the Number we Divided By

Collect a small handful of counters.

- Halve the counters or
- Quarter the counters

Record a fraction number sentence and a division number sentence for example,

- $\frac{1}{2}$ of ___ = ___ and ___ \div 2 = ___ or
- $\frac{1}{4}$ of ___ = ___ and ___ \div 4 = ___

What does the denominator 2 in $\frac{1}{2}$ tell us?

What does the denominator 4 in $\frac{1}{4}$ tell us?

Reflection: What does the denominator tell us?