

Sharing a Pizza Fairly: Introducing Halves and Quarters

Key points

- In Year 1, children begin to learn about fractions, which is just a way of talking about parts of a whole.
- A 'half' means splitting something into two equal parts.
- A 'quarter' means splitting something into four equal parts.
- The most important rule is that every piece must be the same size for it to be a fair share.
- Children learn that pieces can be different shapes but still be equal in size.
- Different schools may introduce these ideas at different times, so feel free to ask your child's teacher for more detail.

Things to try at home

- Ask your child to help you cut a sandwich or a piece of fruit into two equal halves.
- While sharing a snack, play a game of 'fair or unfair' to see if the pieces are the same size.
- Use a pizza or a cake to show how two halves can be split again to make four quarters.
- Let your child 'draw' cutting lines on a plate or napkin before you slice the food.

Find out more

- Your child's class teacher
- The GOV.UK website for the National Curriculum in England