



O WOW! Moment— Getting A Sense of Balance

Can you create fraction equivalences using construction paper?

MATERIALS

- ❖ Strips of Construction Paper
- ❖ Scissors
- ❖ Markers
- ❖ Ruler
- ❖ Di
- ❖ Duct Tape or Masking Tape

GET SET UP

1. Gather up 8 pieces of different color construction paper, card stock or printer paper.
2. You need to cut strips of equal length. To do so place your paper on your table or desk so that the long end is horizontal. Fold this in half and then fold it in half again. Cut the strips. You'll have four strips of each color. If you have eight different colors how many strips will you have?
3. Choose one color to be your whole. Mark it as **1**.
4. Choose a different color to be your half. Fold it in half and then cut the fold. Mark both pieces as **1/2**.
5. Your next color will be your fourths. Fold it in half and then fold it again. Cut at each fold. Mark these as **1/4**.
6. Your next color will be your eighths. Fold this strip in half, in half again and then in half again. Cut at each fold. Mark these as **1/8**.
7. Your next color will be your sixteenths. Fold this strip in half, in half again, in half again and then in half again. Cut at each fold. Mark these as **1/16**.
8. Thirds are a bit harder to estimate. You can either try folding your next color into thirds or you can use a ruler to measure the thirds. Even if you use a ruler fold the strip. Cut at the folds. Mark these as **1/3**.
9. For the next color fold your strip in its thirds and then fold in half. Cut at the folds. Mark these as **1/6**.
10. For your last color fold your strip into thirds, fold in half and fold in half again. Cut at the folds. Mark these as **1/12**.
11. Line up all your strips from **1** all the way down to **1/12**. Try to find equivalent fractions. For example **1/2** equals four **1/8s**.
12. Once you have explored equivalent fractions for awhile you're ready for a game! Cover a die or pair of dice with tape. The sides will be **1/3**, **1/4**, **1/6**, **1/8**, **1/12** and **1/16**. Roll the die and whatever fraction you get select that strip. Keep rolling the die and selecting strips until you have an equivalent of a whole (two **1/4s** and four **1/8s** for example). Take turns. The first person who gets an equivalent whole wins the round! Have fun and be supportive!

