Clarification of Standards for Parents
Grade 4 Mathematics Unit 5

Dear Parents,

We want to make sure that you have an understanding of the mathematics your child will be learning this year. Below you will find the standards we will be learning in Unit Four. Each standard is in bold print and underlined and below it is an explanation with student examples. Your child is not learning math the way we did when we were in school, so hopefully this will assist you when you help your child at home. Please let your teacher know if you have any questions. ☺

MGSE4.NF.5 Express a fraction with denominator 10 as an equivalent fraction with denominator 100, and use this technique to add two fractions with respective denominators 10 and 100. *For example, express 3/10 as 30/100, and add 3/10 + 4/100 = 34/100.*

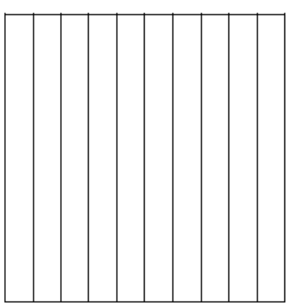
This standard continues the work of equivalent fractions by having students change fractions with a 10 in the denominator into equivalent fractions that have a 100 in the denominator. In order to prepare for work with decimals (MGSE4.NF.6 and MGSE4.NF.7), experiences that allow students to shade decimal grids (10×10 grids) can support this work. Student experiences should focus on working with grids rather than algorithms. Students can also use base ten blocks and other place value models to explore the relationship between fractions with denominators of 10 and denominators of 100.

This work in 4th grade lays the foundation for performing operations with decimal numbers in 5th grade.

Example:

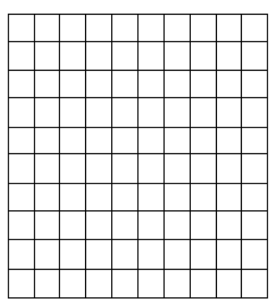
Ones	.	Tenths	Hundredths

Tenths Grid



.3 = 3 tenths = 3/10

Hundredths Grid

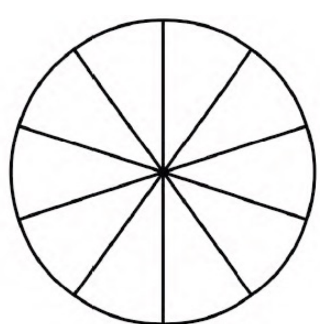


.30 = 30 hundredths = 30/100

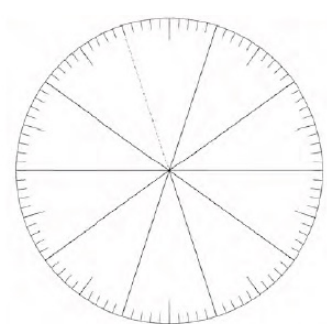
Example:

Represent 3 tenths and 30 hundredths on the models below.

Tenths circle



Hundredths circle



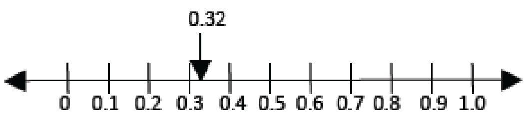
<u>MGSE4.NF.6 Use decimal notation for fractions with denominators 10 or 100.</u> ***For example, rewrite 0.62 as 62/100; describe a length as 0.62 meters; locate 0.62 on a number line diagram.***

Decimals are introduced for the first time. Students should have ample opportunities to explore and reason about the idea that a number can be represented as both a fraction and a decimal.

Students make connections between fractions with denominators of 10 and 100 and the place value chart. By reading fraction names, students say $\frac{32}{100}$ as thirty-two hundredths and rewrite this as 0.32 or represent it on a place value model as shown below.

Hundreds	Tens	Ones	•	Tenths	Hundredths
			•	3	2

Students use the representations explored in MCC.4.NF.5 to understand $\frac{32}{100}$ can be expanded to $\frac{3}{10}$ and $\frac{2}{100}$. Students represent values such as 0.32 or $\frac{32}{100}$ on a number line. $\frac{32}{100}$ is more than $\frac{30}{100}$ (or $\frac{3}{10}$) and less than $\frac{40}{100}$ (or $\frac{4}{10}$). It is closer to $\frac{30}{100}$ so it would be placed on the number line near that value.



<u>MGSE4.NF.7 Compare two decimals to hundredths by reasoning about their size. Recognize that comparisons are valid only when the two decimals refer to the same whole. Record the results of comparisons with the symbols >, =, or <, and justify the conclusions, e.g., by using a visual model.</u>

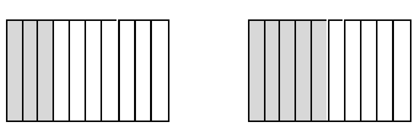
Students should reason that comparisons are only valid when they refer to the same whole. Visual models include area models, decimal grids, decimal circles, number lines, and meter sticks.

Students build area and other models to compare decimals. Through these experiences and their work with fraction models, they build the understanding that comparisons between decimals or fractions are only valid when the whole is the same for both cases. Each of the models below shows 3/10 but the whole on the right is much bigger than the whole on the left. They are both 3/10 but the model on the right is a much larger quantity than the model on the left.

When the wholes are the same, the decimals or fractions can be compared.

Example:

Draw a model to show that 0.3 < 0.5. (*Students would sketch two models of approximately the same size to show the area that represents three-tenths is smaller than the area that represents five-tenths.*)



<u>Common Misconceptions</u>

Students treat decimals as whole numbers when making comparison of two decimals. They think the longer the number, the greater the value. For example, they think that 0.03 is greater than 0.3.

<u>MGSE4.OA.3 Solve multistep word problems posed with whole numbers and having whole-number answers using the four operations, including problems in which remainders must be interpreted. Represent these problems using equations with a letter standing for the unknown quantity. Assess the reasonableness of answers using mental computation and estimation strategies including rounding.</u>

The focus in this standard is to have students use and discuss various strategies. It refers to estimation strategies, including using compatible numbers (numbers that sum to 10 or 100) or rounding. Problems should be structured so that all acceptable estimation strategies will arrive at a reasonable answer.

Example 1:
On a vacation, your family travels 267 miles on the first day, 194 miles on the second day and 34 miles on the third day. How many miles did they travel total?

Some typical estimation strategies for this problem are shown below.

Student 1	Student 2	Student 3
I first thought about 267 and 34. I noticed that their sum is about 300. Then I knew that 194 is close to 200. When I put 300 and 200 together, I get 500.	I first thought about 194. It is really close to 200. I also have 2 hundreds in 267. That gives me a total of 4 hundreds. Then I have 67 in 267 and the 34. When I put 67 and 34 together that is really close to 100. When I add that hundred to the 4 hundreds that I already had, I end up with 500.	I rounded 267 to 300. I rounded 194 to 200. I rounded 34 to 30. When I added 300, 200, and 30, I know my answer will be about 530.

The assessment of estimation strategies should only have one reasonable answer (500 or 530), or a range (between 500 and 550). Problems will be structured so that all acceptable estimation strategies will arrive at a reasonable answer.

Example 2:
Your class is collecting bottled water for a service project. The goal is to collect 300 bottles of water. On the first day, Max brings in 3 packs with 6 bottles in each container. Sarah wheels in 6 packs with 6 bottles in each container. About how many bottles of water still need to be collected?

Student 1	Student 2
First I multiplied 3 and 6 which equals 18. Then I multiplied 6 and 6 which is 36. I know 18 plus 36 is about 50. I'm trying to get to 300. 50 plus another 50 is 100. Then I need 2 more hundreds. So we still need 250 bottles.	First I multiplied 3 and 6 which equals 18. Then I multiplied 6 and 6 which is 36. I know 18 is about 20 and 36 is about 40. 40 + 20 = 60. 300 – 60 = 240, so we need about 240 more bottles.

This standard references interpreting remainders. Remainders should be put into context for interpretation. Ways to address remainders:

- Remain as a left over
- Partitioned into fractions or decimals
- Discarded leaving only the whole number answer
- Increase the whole number answer up one
- Round to the nearest whole number for an approximate result

Example:
Write different word problems involving **44 ÷ 6 = ?** where the answers are best represented as:

- Problem A: 7
- Problem B: 7 r 2
- Problem C: 8
- Problem D: 7 or 8
- Problem E: $7\ ^2/_6$

Possible solutions:

- Problem **A: 7.**
  Mary had 44 pencils. Six pencils fit into each of her pencil pouches. How many pouches did she fill? 44 ÷ *6 = p; p = 7 r 2. Mary can fill 7 pouches completely.*

- Problem **B: 7 r 2.**
  Mary had 44 pencils. Six pencils fit into each of her pencil pouches. How many pouches could she fill and how many pencils would she have left? 44 ÷ *6 = p; p = 7 r 2; Mary can fill 7 pouches and have 2 left over.*

- Problem **C: 8.**
  Mary had 44 pencils. Six pencils fit into each of her pencil pouches. What would the fewest number of pouches she would need in order to hold all of her pencils? 44 ÷ *6 = p; p = 7 r 2; Mary can needs 8 pouches to hold all of the pencils.*

- Problem **D: 7 or 8.**
  Mary had 44 pencils. She divided them equally among her friends before giving one of the leftovers to each of her friends. How many pencils could her friends have received? 44 ÷ *6 = p; p = 7 r 2; some of her friends received 7 pencils. Two friends received 8 pencils.*

- Problem **E: $7^2/_6$.**
  Mary had 44 pencils and put six pencils in each pouch. What fraction represents the number of pouches that Mary filled? 44 ÷ *6 = p; p =* $\mathbf{7}^2/_6$
  Example:
  There are 128 students going on a field trip. If each bus held 30 students, how many buses are needed? *(128 ÷ 30 = b; b = 4 R 8; they will need 5 buses because 4 busses would not hold all of the students).*

Students need to realize in problems, such as the example above, that an extra bus is needed for the 8 students that are left over. Estimation skills include identifying when estimation is appropriate, determining the level of accuracy needed, selecting the appropriate method of estimation, and verifying solutions or determining the reasonableness of situations using various estimation strategies. Estimation strategies include, but are not limited to the following.

- **Front-end estimation with adjusting** (Using the highest place value and estimating from the front end, making adjustments to the estimate by taking into account the remaining amounts)
- **Clustering around an average** (When the values are close together an average value is selected and multiplied by the number of values to determine an estimate.)
- **Rounding and adjusting** (Students round down or round up and then adjust their estimate depending on how much the rounding affected the original values.)
- **Using friendly or compatible numbers such as factors** (Students seek to fit numbers together; e.g., rounding to factors and grouping numbers together that have round sums like 100 or 1000.)
- **Using benchmark numbers that are easy to compute** (Students select close whole numbers for fractions or decimals to determine an estimate.)

MGSE4.MD.2 Use the four operations to solve word problems involving distances, intervals of time, liquid volumes, masses of objects, and money, including problems involving simple fractions or decimals, and problems that require expressing measurements given in a larger unit in terms of a smaller unit. Represent measurement quantities using diagrams such as number line diagrams that feature a measurement scale.

This standard includes multi-step word problems related to expressing measurements from a larger unit in terms of a smaller unit (e.g., feet to inches, meters to centimeter, dollars to cents). Students should have ample opportunities to use number line diagrams to solve word problems.

In unit one, students focus on solving measurement word problems that involve the operations of addition and subtraction. Students also use diagrams (such as number line diagrams) to solve problems.

Example:

Mason ran for an hour and 15 minutes on Monday, 25 minutes on Tuesday, and 40 minutes on Wednesday. What was the total number of minutes Mason ran?

Students can add the times to find the total number of minutes Mason ran. 40 minutes plus another 25 minutes would be 65 minutes, or an hour and 5 minutes. Then, an hour and five minutes can be added to an hour and 15 minutes to see that Mason ran 2 hours and 20 minutes in all.

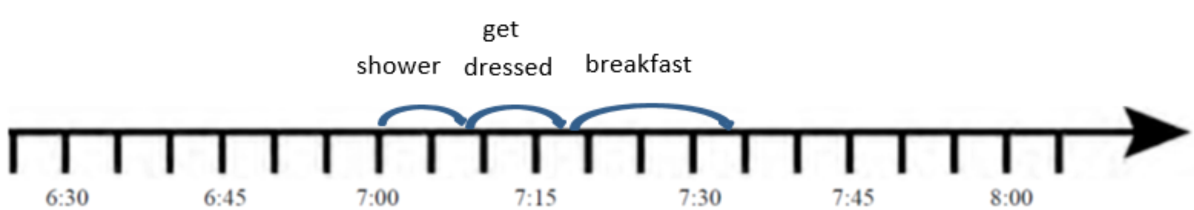
Example:
A pound of apples costs $1.20. Rachel bought a pound and a half of apples. If she gave the clerk a $5.00 bill, how much change will she get back?

Possible student solution: If Rachel bought a pound and a half of apples, she paid $1.20 for the first pound and then 60¢ for the other half a pound, since half of $1.20 is 60¢. When I add $1.20 and 60¢, I get a total of $1.80 spent on the apples. If she gave the clerk a five dollar bill, I can count up to find out how much change she received.

> $1.80 + 20¢ = $2.00
> $2.00 + 3.00 = $5.00
> $3.00 + 20¢ = $3.20
> So Rachel got $3.20 back in change.

Number line diagrams that feature a measurement scale can represent measurement quantities. Examples include: ruler, diagram marking off distance along a road with cities at various points, a timetable showing hours throughout the day, or a liquid volume measure on the side of a container.

Example:
At 7:00 a.m. Candace wakes up to go to school. It takes her 8 minutes to shower, 9 minutes to get dressed and 17 minutes to eat breakfast. How many minutes does she have until the bus comes at 8:00 a.m.? Use the number line to help solve the problem.



Candace is finished at 7:34. If the bus comes at 8:00, I can count on to from 7:34 to 8:00 to find how many minutes it takes for the bus to arrive. From 7:34 to 7:35 is one minute. From 7:35 to 7:40 is 5 minutes and from 7:40 to 8:00 is 20 minutes. 1 minute + 5 minutes + 20 minutes = 26 minutes until the bus arrives.

(Adapted from Henry County Schools)