

Name _____

Deciphering Numbers: Understanding Fractions and Decimals

Open-Ended Response Answer Key

1. Yes, in cooking recipes, ingredients are often measured using fractions (e.g., $\frac{1}{2}$ cup of flour), while measurements such as time or temperature may be expressed as decimals (e.g., 0.5 hours or 75.5°F).
2. Understanding fractions and decimals is important for tasks like shopping, cooking, and budgeting. For example, when comparing prices at the grocery store, knowing how to calculate unit prices using fractions or decimals can help make informed purchasing decisions.
3. Place value in decimals is similar to place value in whole numbers, but each place represents a power of 10. The digits to the left of the decimal point represent whole numbers, while the digits to the right represent parts of a whole, such as tenths, hundredths, and thousandths.
4. Understanding fractions and decimals is crucial in financial literacy. For example, when budgeting for expenses, knowing how to convert between fractions and decimals allows individuals to accurately calculate percentages, interest rates, and discounts.

