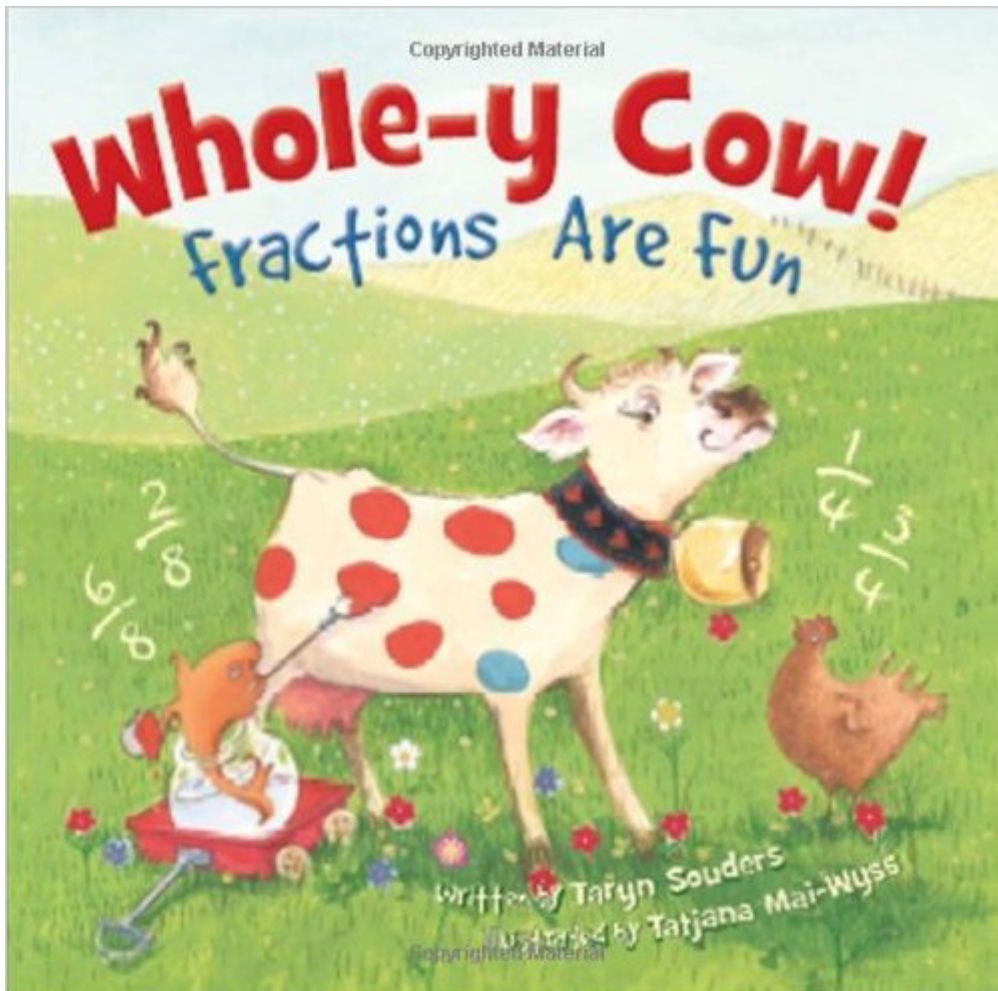


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# Whole-y Cow! Fractions Are Fun



## Synopsis

Learning about fractions isn't always easy, but who says it can't be fun? Using one very entertaining cow, math teacher Taryn Souders has devised a very clever (and fun) way of explaining fractions to beginning learners. One whole cow, calmly eating hay, decided to act differently on this particular day. One whole cow - what should we do? I know! Let's paint one half blue! Prompted by a poem and a visual clue, students are asked to answer what fraction is illustrated in the cow's antics, starting with halves and progressing into thirds, fourths, eighths, and tenths. What fraction of the cow is blue? Answer:  $\frac{1}{2}$  What fraction of the cow is white? Answer:  $\frac{1}{2}$  With the math problem featured as part of the artwork, students get an immediate sense of how to apply and understand the concept of fractions. How moo-velous! Taryn J. Souders lives in Winter Park, Florida. With a background in math education, she is passionate about keeping math fun for young students. This is her first children's book. Tatjana Mai-Wyss was born in Switzerland. She remembers learning about fractions with the help of a typical Swiss cake. Tatjana has illustrated several children's books and her work has been published in books and magazines in the United States and abroad. She lives in South Carolina.

## Book Information

Lexile Measure: 600L (What's this?)

Hardcover: 32 pages

Publisher: Sleeping Bear Press; 42226th edition (August 24, 2010)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1585364606

ISBN-13: 978-1585364602

Product Dimensions: 10 x 1 x 10 inches

Shipping Weight: 1 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.8 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (30 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #113,757 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #37 in [Books > Children's Books > Education & Reference > Math > Fractions](#) #31260 in [Books > Reference](#)

Age Range: 6 - 9 years

Grade Level: 1 - 4

## Customer Reviews

I bought "Whole-y Cow! Fractions are Fun" to read to my third grade students. They loved this book! I bought the hard back version so that it would last longer, as I intent to use it for many years to

come. This book relates counting to fractions in a way that my students were able to understand easily and have fun with. My favorite part of the book is that there are questions as part of the book. Without having to think, I have ready-made questions available for the students to answer. When the students select this text from the classroom library, or during centers, they have questions on hand to ask their partners. I am getting another one for one of my other third grade teachers soon! I definitely recommend this book to anyone that has students studying fractions.

My son's first grade teacher said that they are going to begin with fractions this year. My son loves math, so I thought he would love this book. At first he thought it looked too babyish for him and he didn't want to read it. But mom is usually right, and when he did read it, he enjoyed it. We laughed along together at some of the silly illustrations and situations, and he liked using his brain to try to figure out the fractions. By the end of the book, he really got the idea of how to figure out the top part and the bottom part of a fraction. Great book! There's also a teacher's guide available at the author's website [...] which would be great for teachers, homeschoolers, or just for home enrichment.

We have thoroughly enjoyed having this book as part of our kid's collection! My girls both enjoyed the colorfully animated pictures, along with the riddles. I have a daughter with some learning disabilities and she found this to an entertaining way to go about Math. I could tell she even enjoyed seeing if she got the riddles right!! :) Thank you so much for putting your knowledge and creativity into a book that can help our children to learn and love math at the same time. Great job on this book! Looking forward to another book in the future, hopefully! :)

Whole-Y Cow! This is a fantastic book. From first grade to fifth it is a winner. Children will be engaged and entertained. The story line is whimsical and fun while the illustrations leave children laughing at this silly, little cow. What WILL she do next? My class of first graders never even knew they were learning and my daughter, in fifth grade, took the challenge to answer each question. Great work Taryn Souders.

I love the concept of this book, but I'm troubled by using it to teach fractions. One of the important concepts to teach about fractions is that ALL PARTS MUST BE THE SAME SIZE. For instance, drawing a line between the front and hind quarters of a cow and saying that the parts are EQUAL SIZE is obviously not true, and it confuses children. To say that the swimsuit pictured in the book is

1/3 blue (or white or red) is also not correct because the swimsuit is not divided into equal-sized portions. I really hate to criticize any picture book, but I bought this to use with a 2nd grade fractions unit, and it really can't be used for that purpose.

Our local library has several copies of this and it is wonderful! Having a child who is terrified of math and especially of fractions, this book was nothing short of just plain sensational! Taryn Souders really captures the potential fun that learning can be, even for something as "scary" as fractions. This book is cheerful, funny, colorful and most important, makes learning the concept lots of fun. As a further bonus, she provided the answers in the back of the book so that kids can see how well they were doing. It is a real confidence builder.

Whole-y Cow! is a great book. The story is so fun that kids don't even realize that they are learning. The illustrations are whimsical and colorful. My 4 year old likes to refer to it as the "silly cow book". He doesn't yet understand all the fractions, but I like that he is hearing the verbiage. He will no doubt be able to better relate to the real life examples behind the concepts. We like the book so much I'm ordering one for my 7 year old niece for her birthday.

Mrs. Souders...thank you for writing this book. It is practical, fun, easy to read, and interesting to my 6 year old as well as my 4 year old. I love Whole-y Cow because I can adapt it differently for each age. It challenges my children to think, while keeping them interested and not wanting to give up. The illustrations are adorable, making it cute enough for a coffee table book. As a home educator, this is the kind of book I have been wanting for my home library.

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