



# How to support your student as they learn about Percents

Mathematics is a connected set of ideas, and your student knows a lot. Encourage them to use the mathematics they already know when encountering new concepts in this topic.

### Where are we?



In this MATHbook topic, students transition from general ratio reasoning to focusing on percents, a special type of ratio. They learn to describe percents in multiple ways: as a ratio, as a decimal to the hundredths place, and as a part-to-whole relationship in which the whole is 100. Students apply ratio reasoning and strategies to solve percent problems.

### Where have we been?

Students have had extensive experiences with fractions and decimals, with and without models. They have used the relationship between decimals and fractions to write decimals as fractions and vice versa.

### Where are we going?

What students learn in *Percents* is useful in everyday life and work. In grade 7, students will use the foundation they establish here to solve more advanced percent problems, including problems involving discounts, sales tax, interest, percent increase or decrease, and tips.



Encourage your students to work through the sequence of MATHia assigned to them. These workspaces deepen their understanding and provide practice with the concepts of *Percents*.

#### Percent, Fraction, and Decimal Equivalence

- Percent Models
- Fraction, Decimal, Percent Conversions

#### Determining the Part and the Whole in Percent Problems

- Determining a Part Given a Percent and a Whole
- Determining a Whole Given a Percent and a Part



ONLINE RESOURCES FOR FAMILIES  
[www.carnegielearning.com/home-connection](http://www.carnegielearning.com/home-connection)



MARK YOUR CALENDAR  
End of Topic Test:



## How to support your student as they learn

**MATH MYTH**

**Students only use 10% of their brains.**

Hollywood is in love with the idea that humans only use a small portion of their brains. This notion formed the basis of the movies *Lucy* (2014) and *Limitless* (2011). Both films ask the audience: Imagine what you could accomplish if you could use 100% of your brain!

Well, this isn't Hollywood, and you're stuck with an ordinary brain. The good news is that you do use 100% of your brain. As you look around the room, your visual cortex is busy assembling images; your *motor cortex* is busy moving your neck; and all of the associative areas recognize the objects that you see. Meanwhile, the *corpus callosum*, which is a thick band of neurons that connect the two hemispheres, ensures that all of this information is kept coordinated. Moreover, the brain does this automatically, which frees up space to ponder deep, abstract concepts like mathematics!

#mathmythbusted

## Talking Points

### Discuss With Your Student

Your student is learning to define percent in multiple ways: as a ratio; as a decimal to the hundredths place; and as a part-to-whole relationship in which the whole is 100. You can further support your student's learning by asking questions about the work they do in class or at home.

### Questions to Ask

- 1 *How does this problem look like something you did in class?*

---

- 2 *Can you show me the strategy you used to solve this problem? Do you know another way to solve it?*

---

- 3 *Does your answer make sense? How do you know?*

---

- 4 *Is there anything you don't understand? How can you use today's lesson to help?*



**KEY TERMS**

**benchmark percents**

A benchmark percent is a commonly used percent such as 1%, 5%, 10%, 25%, 50%, and 100%.



**ONLINE RESOURCES FOR FAMILIES**  
[www.carnegielearning.com/home-connection](http://www.carnegielearning.com/home-connection)



**MARK YOUR CALENDAR**  
**End of Topic Test:**