Lesson Plan #13—Math
Title: Recognizing Fractions
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Introduction:
Students often do not recognize how often we use fractions. In fact, they may not realize they are indeed using them everyday. This lesson plan helps them gain awareness of everyday usage of fractions.

Objectives:
In this lesson, students will:
- recognize and name fractional amounts
- use familiar items such as "Mintos" (or "Tic Tacs" or something similar)

Session Time:
15-20 minutes

Materials:
- one package "Mintos"

Methods:
Approximately 10 students in class; lecture; participation

Procedures:
1) Count the number of Mintos in one container
2) Divide that number by 2 to determine what "half" is
3) Take half (count them) of the Mintos away
4) Ask students how many remain (count them to make sure)
5) Ask students to recognize that half is represented by "1/2"
6) Now, take half of the half away
7) Ask students to count the Mintos that remain
8) Explain that we now have ¼ of the Mintos originally in the container
9) Ask students what fraction represents those that have been taken away (¾)
10) Explain that ¼ plus ¾ equals 1--the whole, original amount of the Mintos in the container.

Conclusion:
Students are able to understand, using Mintos as manipulatives, that fractions can represent those that have been taken away as well as those that remain. They are also able to understand that both fractions must add up to "1" to represent the original total number of Mintos.

NOTE: *This lesson was developed during the **New Teacher Orientation Workshop** on August 10, 2009 at John A. Logan College.*