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# Give Me Half! (Great Source Mathstart)



## Synopsis

How do you share a pizza? You split it in half! Two siblings split a yummy lunch and discover that using fractions can be messy. This hilarious book written by Stuart J. Murphy and illustrated by G. Brian Karas introduces the simplest of fractions:  $\frac{1}{2}$ . This is a Level 2 MathStart book, which is perfect for kids ages 6 and up. The MathStart series uses funny stories and colorful art to show kids that they use math every day, even outside of the classroom! Each book features an activity guide to have fun with the math concepts presented in the story. Supports the Common Core Learning Standards

## Book Information

Lexile Measure: 430 (What's this?)

Series: Great Source Mathstart (Book 1)

Paperback: 40 pages

Publisher: GREAT SOURCE; 1 edition (October 5, 1999)

Language: English

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Product Dimensions: 10 x 0.1 x 8 inches

Shipping Weight: 3.2 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.3 out of 5 stars Â Â See all reviews Â (20 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #79,347 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #26 in Â Books > Children's Books > Education & Reference > Math > Fractions #41 in Â Books > Science & Math > Mathematics > Popular & Elementary > Arithmetic #1562 in Â Books > Children's Books > Literature & Fiction > Chapter Books & Readers > Beginner Readers

Age Range: 6 - 10 years

Grade Level: Preschool - 2

## Customer Reviews

This book is an accurate description of how children react to sharing. As the brother and sister learn to share the food each of them have, they are also learning about fractions. Each child is reminded by their parents to divide the pizza, juice, and cupcakes in half to share equally. The children's first instinct is to share unequally. The book introduces new terms (i.e. divide) and gives the reader a fun introduction to fractions and getting along with each other.

In theory the concept of helping children understand fractions at a basic level is great. I liked the visuals with a dividing line down on the pizza showing half, or dividing a package of 2 cupcakes. I also liked that the author included on some pages the math equations like  $\frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{2} = 1$ . What I really did not like is the tone and the words the children and the mom (whom you do not see) in the story use. They are not very respectful to each other. I looked past the title "Give me Half" hoping the rest of the book would not be that sassy but I was wrong. Things like "I know you want some pizza, sis...you only get one slice" then "you'd better give me more than that", later on "you'd better give me some". Doesn't sound so terrible when you are reading it to yourself but when you read it to children (in my case, 4 year old twins) it sounds really sassy and rude, even my children noticed it and commented about the rude words on almost every page.

I got this book for my daughter, who is in Kindergarten. It illustrates very basic fraction concepts in a way that got my daughter very interested (pizza, cupcakes, etc). For it's purpose, the book entertained my daughter with the talk of sharing with siblings (which she connected to also with friends) and there's a food fight at the end that she found funny. We did have a discussion afterwards about how she should not really talk like they do in the book and we don't really throw food, but she seemed to have no problem understanding that it was a book and was supposed to be funny, and that it wasn't necessarily real. Now whenever we have food that can be easily divided she has a blast applying fractions to it.

I expected this to be a fun storybook about fractions. In fact, it is a very boring story of two siblings who don't want to share. The only fraction in the book is half. It is shown on only 2-3 pages. I was expecting a story where more fractions were introduced to share 'lunch' with a larger and larger group. Disappointing.

This was a good book to use as we studied fractions and the kids enjoyed it very much. It is a new book to me, and I used it along with Eating Fractions, by Bruce McMillan. The books help the students to see concretely what fractional parts really are, and the symbols that represent those parts.

Used this book in my 3rd grade math class. My students loved it! I used it as an interactive read aloud and my students loved figuring out the fractions. I didn't have to plan much for this read aloud which was the best part!

I like this book as an introduction to fractions. I use it with my kindergarten students. They can all relate to having to share with siblings or friends..... and they love the food fight at the end of the story!

Hello. I am an American, living in a town of about 3000 people in southwest Germany, raising a 3-3/4 year old daughter. Toward the end and after World War II, the people in Germany did not have enough to eat. Grandparents in Germany remember being hungry in their childhoods. To this day, food for humans is treated with respect and reverence here. It is not wasted, if at all possible. I borrowed this book from my friend to consider buying it for our daughter. There is no way that we can have it on our shelf here, as it devotes SIX PAGES to a FOOD FIGHT. Ok, the kids clean up the thrown pizza, cookies, cupcakes, (super nutrition, isn't it!) and "juice" in the end, but most of it gets thrown in the trash. Germans feel guilty when they throw food in the trash. Also, as another reviewer has already noted, the language and feelings between the brother and sister shown are also very unkind and disrespectful. This book devotes an entire THREE pages to anything mathematical. Choose another book by Stuart J. Murphy - Tally O'Malley is a great book!

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