Grades 6-8: Math: Fractions, Decimals and Percents

Objectives

1. Students will be able to add and subtract decimals.
2. Students will be able to change a fraction into a decimal and a decimal into a percent to determine amount left toward goal.

Time

One week of class periods (25 minutes on Day One; 15 minutes required each day thereafter)

Materials

- “Alex and the Amazing Lemonade Stand” book
- “Track Your Progress” worksheet
- “Making Change Happen in Our Community” worksheet
- Ways to “Fill the Coin Collection Box” Idea Sheet
- Parent/Guardian Permission Letter
- Recording Sheet
- Calculators (if desired)

Preparation

1. Obtain a copy of “Alex and the Amazing Lemonade Stand.” (If needed, you may submit a teacher request form for one at: http://www.alexslemonade.org/webform/alex-amazing-lemonade-stand-book-request)
2. Get permission from administrators to fundraise for Alex’s Lemonade Stand Foundation.
3. Ask other teachers to participate in the program.

Procedures

Attention-Getter: “A little girl named Alex Scott made a huge difference for kids with cancer everywhere. She was much younger than all of you and still raised over a million dollars for childhood cancer research in her lifetime. We are going to be working to take small steps toward making a big difference.”

Lesson Steps:
Day 1

1. Read the book “Alex and the Amazing Lemonade Stand” and discuss how Alex was able to help others. Have students discuss the difference she was able to make.
2. Review adding and subtracting decimals and explain that these skills are important in understanding their fundraising goals and how their efforts will impact this goal.
3. Have the students set a goal for the amount that they wish to raise, and complete steps 1-3 in the “Making Change Happen in Our Community” packet.

Explain that today, each student will be given a coin collection box to take home for a week. Set both an individual and class goal for how much money to raise and prominently display the class goal.

Day 2-4
1. Have students record the amount they have collected each day on their “Track Your Progress” sheet. Demonstrate how to convert this amount to a fraction of their total goal, and follow-up by showing them how to change the fraction to a decimal and percent.
2. Have students practice doing this and partner to check each other’s work.
3. Discuss as a class the percent that each student has achieved toward his/her own goal.

Day 5
1. Have students record the amount they have collected in total on their “Track Your Progress” sheet.
2. Discuss how many students have reached 100% of their goal, and celebrate their achievements!

Conclusion

Hold a round table discussion about the importance of being able to add and subtract money as well as find percentages. How did knowing the percentage that you have collected help to achieve your goal?

One Week After The Project

Return donations to Alex’s Lemonade Stand Foundation.

Extensions:
1. Have students write “Thank you” notes to those people who helped them achieve their goal.
2. Challenge students to create a lemonade stand or other event to make their percentage reached extend over 100.
**TRACK YOUR PROGRESS**

Write your goal in the star for how much money you hope to raise by the end of the week for childhood cancer.

Each day, count the coins in your coin collection box that you have collected. Then, find the percentage of your goal that you have collected so far. Hint: It is easiest to find the fraction and decimal first!

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FILL YOUR COIN COLLECTION BOX:
IDEAS THAT CAN HELP YOU REACH YOUR GOAL!

1. Ask your parents or relatives if you can help with chores around the house for extra change. You might be surprised that they are willing to give you a quarter for helping to dry the dishes!

2. Go on a scavenger hunt around your house. It’s amazing how much change is dropped in the cushions of couches or in other hidden areas!

3. Call relatives (with your parent’s permission) and ask if they will donate spare change to your cause. Many people have buckets of change they may be collecting!

4. Hold a small lemonade stand, friendship bracelet stand or other stand in your yard and use the change to fill your coin collection box.

5. See if you can help your parents with laundry. Pockets are often still filled with coins when they go through the wash.
Dear Parents/Guardians,

Alex’s Lemonade Stand Foundation (ALSF) designed the Change Childhood Cancer program to help educate children about giving back. The program shows that the simple act of collecting change can have a large impact in the battle against childhood cancer. If participating, each child is asked to collect coins to help find a cure. By teaching children that they can make a difference in the lives of other children, we empower them to recognize the power of one. We recommend that your child develops ideas to help fill their coin collection box.

Some ways you can help your child on this mission are:

- Develop a list of simple chores that can be done to earn change
- Help your child go on a scavenger hunt for loose change around your house
- Have your child write a letter or email to relatives explaining Alex’s story and asking them to help fill their coin collection box

*Note: Children should not go door to door collecting donations. Parents should accompany children during any fundraising efforts.*

Please complete and return this form to school if you give your child permission to participate. Each coin collected helps to cure childhood cancer!

Thank you in advance for your help. For further information on the mission of Alex’s Lemonade Stand Foundation, or for other ways that you can help, please visit AlexsLemonade.org.

Yes, I give permission for ____________________________ to participate in Alex’s Lemonade Stand Foundation’s “Change Childhood Cancer” program.

Parent or Guardian Signature: ____________________________

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AlexsLemonade.org
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