



Whole-y Cow! Fractions are Fun

By Taryn Souders

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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.

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Editorial Review

From School Library Journal

K-Gr 2—This appealing book makes a potentially difficult concept a lot of fun. Souders introduces both the concepts of parts of a whole and parts of a group. She uses a cow to help explain fractions with inviting pictures that match the rhyming text beautifully. Answers to the posed questions appear at the back. The last spread contains many elements to practice the math.—Loreli. E. Stochaj, Franklin School, Summit, NJ ©(c) Copyright 2010. Library Journals LLC, a wholly owned subsidiary of Media Source, Inc. No redistribution permitted.

About the Author

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