What We’re Learning
During the next few weeks, our math class will be using percent to calculate simple interest, sales tax, and discounts. You can expect to see work that requires students to make calculations involving percent. You may wish to use the following samples as guides to help your child.

Vocabulary
► **rate** A comparison by a ratio of two quantities using different kinds of units.
► **base** A number to which a rate is applied to determine a percentage.
► **percentage** The percent of a number, calculated by multiplying the rate times the base.

Guiding Your Child

**Using the Percent Equation**

Suppose 42% of the 7,700 voters in an election voted for Candidate A. How many votes did Candidate A get?

Use the formula \( P = R \times B \), where \( P \) = percentage, \( R \) = rate, and \( B \) = base. Forty-two percent can be represented as 42%, 0.42, or \( \frac{42}{100} \).

\[
P = 0.42 \times 7,700 = 3,234
\]

Candidate A got 3,234 votes.

Suppose 151 of the 604 tickets to a show were not sold. What percent of the tickets were not sold? Use the formula \( P = R \times B \) to find the answer.

\[
151 = R \times 604
\]

\[
151 \div 604 = R
\]

\[
0.25 = R
\]

25% of the tickets were not sold.

Suppose 20%, or 125, of the commuters polled said they were satisfied with bus service. How many commuters were polled? Use the formula \( P = R \times B \) to find the answer.

\[
125 = 0.20 \times B
\]

\[
125 \div 0.20 = B
\]

\[
625 = B
\]

625 commuters were polled.

During this chapter, students will need to continue practicing basic addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division facts.

Sincerely,

Your child’s teacher