Name _____

# Use Models and Strategies to Divide Decimals

## Topic 6 Standards
5.NBT.A.2, 5.NBT.B.7
*See the front of the Student's Edition for complete standards.*

Dear Family,

   In this topic, your student is learning to divide decimals by decimals and by whole numbers. He or she will be asked to divide decimals to the hundredths place in a variety of ways, including using models, strategies based on place value, and the standard algorithm. Your student will also develop proficiency in estimating when dividing decimals.
   Try this activity with your student to help him or her practice dividing a decimal number by a whole number.

**Share the Money**

**Materials:** real or play dollar bills, dimes, and pennies

**Step 1** Pose this problem: Three sisters want to share $3.48 equally. How can they divide the amount equally? Display 3 dollar bills, 4 dimes, and 8 pennies.

**Step 2** Have your student suggest some ideas for sharing the money equally. If needed, remind your student that a dime can be traded for 10 pennies.

**Step 3** Work together to find the answer. Then have your student model the solution: Each sister gets 1 dollar bill, 1 dime, and 6 pennies. Have your student record the amount. ($1.16)

**Step 4** Repeat with the amount of $2.94. (Each sister gets 9 dimes and 8 pennies; $0.98.) Continue with other amounts of money that can be shared equally.

## Observe Your Child

**Focus on Mathematical Practice 2**
Reason abstractly and quantitatively.

Help your child become proficient with Mathematical Practice 2. Ask your student to determine if the quotient of 3.6 ÷ 0.6 is greater than or less than 3.6. Ask your student how he or she used number sense to decide.