



**Caution:** Balloons are fun toys, but can be dangerous like all toys...PLEASE make sure small children do not chew balloons or have access to broken bits. We would like all our kids to grow healthy and happy. I ask you to be responsible like professional balloonist. Adult supervision is recommended.

## Parts/Fractions

**Material Need: 1 bag of 260 twisting balloons and a ruler.**

Working with  $\frac{1}{8}$ ,  $\frac{1}{4}$ ,  $\frac{1}{2}$ , and wholes.

This project will require the student to count, add, distinguish colors, measure and calculate the number of parts. Students will work with fractions and or decimal conversion.

1. Open the bag of balloons and separate the balloons by color
2. Set aside all defective balloons in a separate pile
3. How many parts (colors) make up the bag of balloon?
4. Use the bag count (100) how many balloon are blue? Show the answer as a fraction and or decimal. Advanced students can use the true balloon count.
5. Write the number of balloons as a fraction and / or decimal. To do this, put the number in each group over the total number of balloons ie  $\frac{15}{100}$  or .15
6. What is the average number of balloons in each group?
7. How long are the balloons in inches and centimeters?
8. How wide are the balloons in inches and centimeters?
9. How many balloon piles are prime colors?
10. What two colors combined will make green?
11. What was the faction of defective balloons? Can you convert this to a decimal?
12. If you are making a balloon sculpture and you need 120 yellow balloons and 70 red balloons, how many bags of balloons would you have to buy to have enough balloons to make the sculpture?
13. How long is a balloon prior to inflation? How long is the balloon inflated? Letting the balloon deflate, how long is the balloon now?
14. How much did the balloon stretch by?



## **Balloon Sizes**

Balloons come in different sizes and are denoted by a manufacturer's numbering system. The first number represents the diameter in inches and the second number refers to its length. Typically, balloon entertainers use the 260 twisting balloon. These balloons are 2-inches in diameter and 60-inches long. While other balloon sizes like 160, 321, 350, 360 and 646's are used for detail or making very large balloon animals.



**646 Giant Airship** (6" x 46")



**160** (1" x 60")



**260** (2" x 60")



**350** (3" x 50")



**321 Bee Body** (3" x 21")



### **Twisting Tip:**

When a balloon is uninflated their colors can be deceiving. Dark purple, green and brown balloons can look like black balloons.

To help distinguish the different colors, stretch the balloon nozzle over your finger in bright light or fluorescent lighting. This will show you the true color of the balloon.