

## A TEACHER REFLECTS

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Throughout this phase, I was impressed by how my students really went back to what they knew about fractions to help them with their work with decimals. In Lesson 5, they were asked to convert the decimals to fractions to check their answers. This reinforcement was so helpful for all my students. Students who needed more practice in fractional computation became more confident with their skill by the end of this phase. For other students, this phase solidified the relationship between fractions and decimals.

The place value game which was used several times in this phase not only helped the students with decimal operations, but also involved good thinking skills and strategies that showed me evidence that their overall number sense was becoming more sophisticated. This was evident in Lesson 7 when they were rolling the number cube for the place value game. I often heard strategies such as “if you roll a high number first it should go here, but if you roll a low number put it here” or “try to put a high number in the one’s place of the second number and in the ten’s place of the first number.”