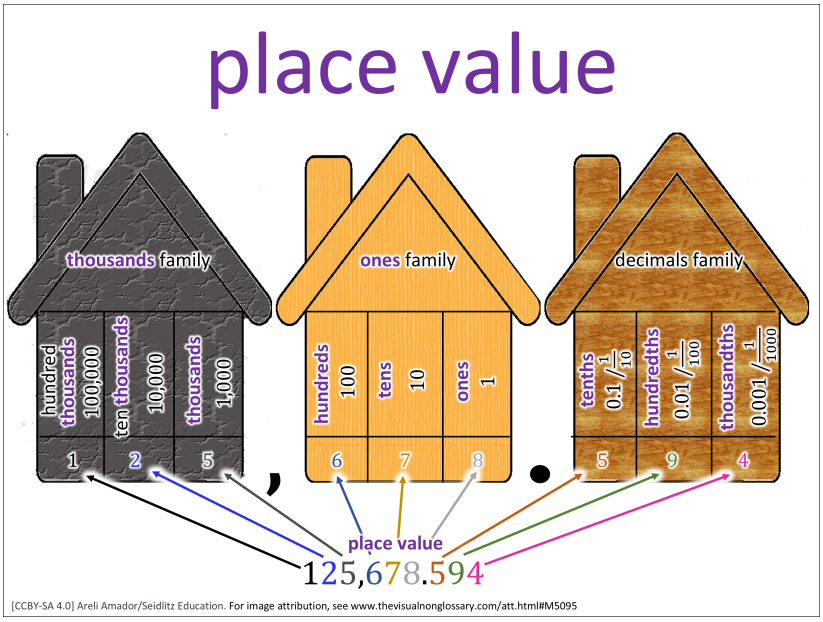
The Visual Non-Glossary™

Baking by the Numbers

Read to discover how place value helps Jayla and Marcus solve a real-world problem.

Pay Attention To:

- The digits in the number and what place each one is in
- How the recipe uses a decimal measurement
- How place value helps them understand the measurement
- Any words that show math thinking or decisions
- The difference between terms like hundred and hundredths



Jayla and her cousin Marcus were baking cupcakes. They needed to double their recipe. Jayla read the recipe card, and Marcus looked at it too.

"It says three and four hundred seventy-two thousandths cups of flour. That's 3.472," said Jayla.

Marcus said, "The 3 is the whole number. After the decimal, we have the **tenths**, **hundredths**, and **thousandths**."

Jayla pointed to the digits. "The 4 is in the **tenths** place. The 7 is in the **hundredths** place. The 2 is in the **thousandths** place."

Marcus asked, "If we round this, what would it be?"

Jayla said, "Probably 3 and a half cups. **Place value** helps us round numbers."

Marcus smiled. "It's just like school. The words **hundred** and **thousand** are not the same as **hundredths** and **thousandths**."

Seidlitz EDUCATION

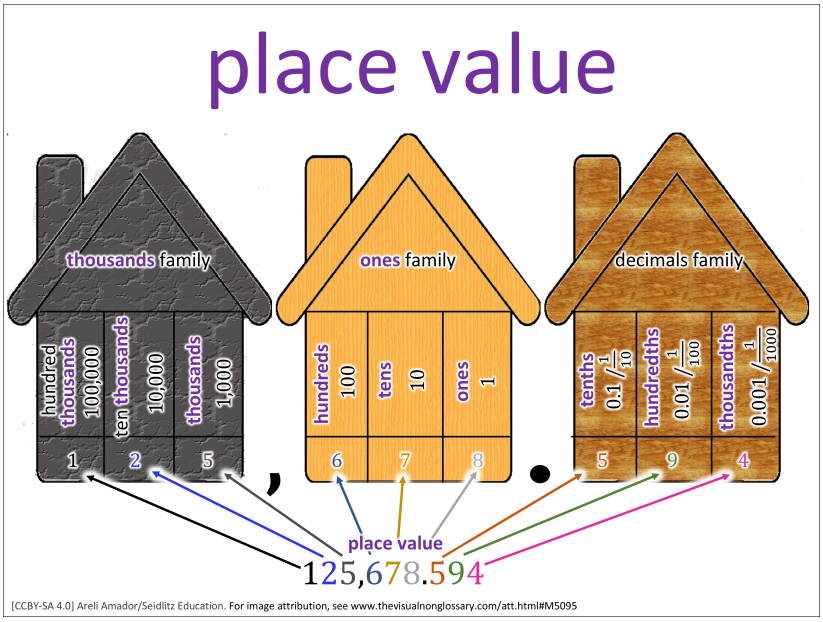
The Visual Non-Glossary™

Baking by the Numbers

Read to discover how place value helps Jayla and Marcus solve a real-world problem.

Pay Attention To:

- The digits in the number and what place each one is in
- How the recipe uses a decimal measurement
- How place value helps them understand the measurement
- Any words that show math thinking or decisions
- The difference between terms like hundred and hundredths



Jayla and her cousin Marcus were baking cupcakes for their grandmother's birthday. They needed to double their recipe, which meant checking all the measurements twice. As Jayla read the recipe card, Marcus looked over her shoulder.

"Three and four hundred seventy-two thousandths cups of flour," Jayla read. "That's written as 3.472."

Marcus nodded. "So the 3 is the whole number part, and everything after the decimal shows the **tenths**, **hundredths**, and **thousandths**."

Jayla pointed to each digit. "The 4 is in the **tenths** place. That's like almost half a cup. The 7 is in the **hundredths** place—smaller than a tenth. And the 2 is in the **thousandths** place. That's super tiny."

Then Marcus said, "Wait, if we round this, what would it be? Like if we only had whole measuring cups?"

Seidlitz EDUCATION

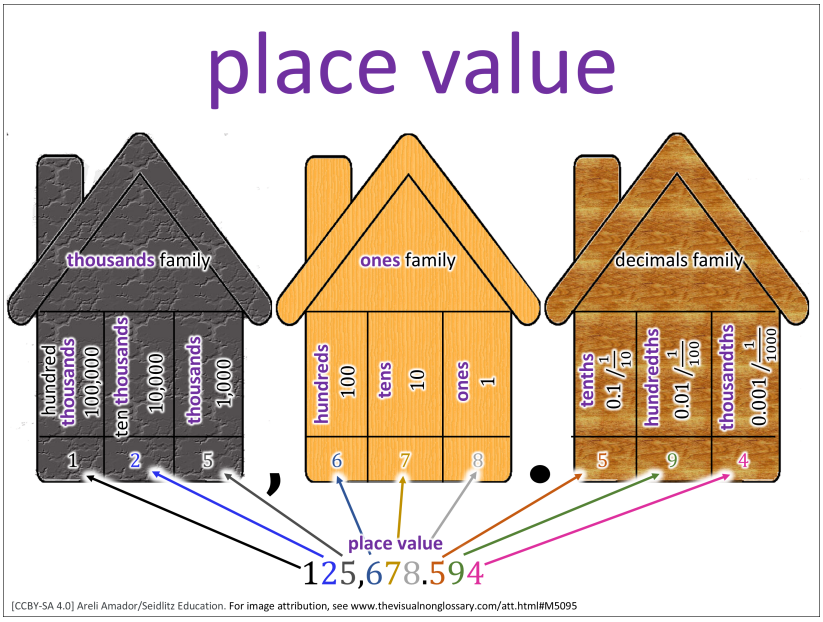
Jayla thought for a second. “We’d round it to 3 and a half cups. That’s because the 4 in the **tenths** place shows it’s almost at the halfway point. **Place value** helps us decide where to round.”

After mixing the ingredients, Marcus smiled. “It’s kind of like math class. The **hundred** and **thousand** in whole numbers mean something really different than **hundredths** and **thousandths** after the decimal.”

The Visual Non-Glossary™

Baking by the Numbers

Read to discover how place value helps Jayla and Marcus solve a real-world problem.



Pay Attention To:

- The digits in the number and what place each one is in
- How the recipe uses a decimal measurement
- How place value helps them understand the measurement
- Any words that show math thinking or decisions
- The difference between terms like hundred and hundredths

Jayla and her cousin Marcus were in the kitchen, doubling a cupcake recipe for their grandmother's birthday. As Jayla read the ingredients, Marcus leaned in to help with the measurements.

"Three and four hundred seventy-two thousandths cups of flour," Jayla read aloud. "That's 3.472."

Marcus nodded thoughtfully. "So the 3 is the whole number, and everything after the decimal shows the **tenths**, **hundredths**, and **thousandths**."

Jayla tapped each digit. "The 4 is in the **tenths** place. It's close to half. The 7 is in the **hundredths** place, and the 2 is in the **thousandths**—a very tiny part."

Marcus asked, "If we only had whole measuring cups, what would we round it to?"

Jayla thought for a moment. "Probably 3 and a half cups. That 4 in the **tenths** place tells us it's nearly halfway. We can use **place value** to round."

Seidlitz EDUCATION

Marcus grinned. “It’s like math in real life. Even though **hundred** and **hundredths** look alike, they mean totally different things—same with **thousand** and **thousandths**.”