

INT. SOUTH PARK ELEMENTARY/MR. GARRISON'S CLASS--MORNING

MR. GARRISON moves before the chalkboard to address his class.

MR. GARRISON  
OK, children, settle down. Today we're going to start learning about fractions.

CLASS  
Awwwww!

MR. GARRISON  
You children behave yourselves!

STAN  
Mr. Garrison, why do we have to learn dumb old math, anyway?

MR. GARRISON  
Math is very important, children. Let's suppose that you want a new skateboard, so you start a lemonade stand. You charge 80 cents a glass, and a customer gives you five dollars. You need math to know how much change to give him.

STAN  
I'd just use a calculator.

Stan brings one out onto his desk.

MR. GARRISON  
Oh, OK, Stanley. But what happens if...

Garrison dramatically swipes Stan's calculator.

MR. GARRISON (CONT'D)  
...your calculator breaks! Now what are you going to do?!

KYLE  
You can use my calculator, Stan.

STAN  
Thanks, Dude.

MR. GARRISON  
OK, but what if Kyle's calculator runs out of *batteries*?!

Garrison grabs the second calculator. The children share a nonplussed glance over their teacher's intensity. Then...

KYLE

It's solar.

MR. GARRISON

What if there's a total eclipse of the sun?

CARTMAN

Selling lemonade sounds totally weak. I'd just have my mom buy me the skateboard.

MR. GARRISON

What if your mom's dead?

KYLE

You could still--

MR. GARRISON

And your dad's dead. All the adults in the world are dead!

A kid in the back starts CRYING at this suggestion.

CARTMAN

Then who's going to buy the lemonade?

STAN

So... if some day we want a skateboard, but our parents are dead, and our calculator breaks, and our friends' calculators run out of batteries at the exact same time as a total eclipse of the sun, that's why we need math?

MR. GARRISON

Yes.

CHILDREN

(comprehending)

Oh.

MR. GARRISON

Now, the numerator is--

Enter Principal Victoria.

PRINCIPAL VICTORIA

Excuse me, Mr. Garrison, but I just need to talk to your class for a moment.