Parachutes are very helpful and are used for lots of different things.

They are very important for pilots, who may need to use them to exit their aeroplane and travel back to the ground safely.

They are used because they help people falling from the sky land safely, they use their big colourful canopies to slow them down before they land.
Activity 1

This is a plain parachute, if we cut the parachute down the middle we are left with two halves that are the same, and when put back together make a whole parachute again.

Tick the parachute that shows a half (½).

How many other ways can you shade a half (½)? Use the parachutes above to try!
This is our parachute, have a look at the colours used. The parachute is made up of different sections.

Can you work out how much of the parachute is blue? Answer = $\frac{1}{2}$ or a half
Activity 2

This is our new parachute, with smaller sections. Have a look at the colours and the shapes you can see.

How many sections are there on this parachute? Answer = 10

If you take away all the red sections, how many sections are left? Answer = 7

Can you work out what fraction of the parachute is white? Answer = ½ or a half

How many circles can you see on our parachute? Answer = 3
Activity 3

Circle half (½) the paratroopers

There are now 10 paratroopers altogether.
Half (½) of 10 is 5
Activity 4

These are our paratroopers. There is a red team, and a blue team. On the next page there is a template should you wish to cut the parachuters out to help.

There are 8 paratroopers in total, if you take away all the blue paratroopers how many are left? \( \text{Answer} = 3 \)

How many more paratroopers do the blue team have? \( \text{Answer} = 2 \)

If you take away 4 paratroopers from the blue team and add them to the red team, how many paratroopers are now on the red team? \( \text{Answer} = 7 \)

How many more red paratroopers would you need to make the teams equal? \( \text{Answer} = 2 \)
Activity 4 Template
Challenge Question

If you enjoyed that, here's a challenge for you...

Islay has a collection of Red Arrow toy planes she has bought from her visits to RAF Museum Cosford.

She gives half (½) to her best friend Charlotte.

Islay has 6 Red Arrows left.

How many Red Arrow toy planes were there?  Answer = 12

Well done!