

## Ordering a set of fractions

MODULE 3 · FRACTIONS, DECIMALS AND PERCENTAGES NUMBER

To compare two fractions with **different denominators**, rewrite them both with the **same denominator**, then compare numerators.

→  $1/3$  vs  $2/5$ : rewrite as  $5/15$  and  $6/15$ .  $6/15$  is bigger, so  $2/5 > 1/3$ .

→  $3/4$  vs  $5/8$ : rewrite  $3/4$  as  $6/8$ .  $6/8 > 5/8$ , so  $3/4$  is bigger.

 $\frac{1}{2}$ 

### HOW TO ANSWER TODAY

- **Compare fractions.** Make the bottom numbers (denominators) the same first. Then compare the top numbers.

$1/4$  and  $1/3 \rightarrow 3/12$  and  $4/12 \rightarrow 1/4 < 1/3$



### TRY IT ON THE LINE

Shade each fraction on its own strip, then number them 1 (smallest) to 4 (biggest) in the boxes.

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$1/4$  — order: \_\_\_\_

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$2/3$  — order: \_\_\_\_

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$1/2$  — order: \_\_\_\_

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$5/6$  — order: \_\_\_\_

1. Shade each fraction on its strip.
2. Number them 1 to 4 from smallest to biggest.
3. Write them in order: \_\_\_\_ < \_\_\_\_ < \_\_\_\_ < \_\_\_\_

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 $\frac{1}{2}$ 

### PRACTICE

- 1 At break time, Niamh, Cian and Saoirse each open a packet of biscuits to share. Niamh has  $11/12$  of her packet left, Cian has  $7/8$  of his packet left, and Saoirse has  $2/5$  of her packet left. Order the amounts left from smallest to largest.

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- 2 Three 5th class teams played in a Cumann na mBunscol blitz at the county grounds. Cara's team won  $9/10$  of their matches, Tadhg's team won  $2/5$ , and Niamh's team won  $7/10$ . Order the teams' win fractions from smallest to largest.

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 $\frac{1}{2}$ 

### CHALLENGE

- 1 5th class are tracking how full the bird feeder at the classroom window gets each week. In four weeks the feeder fills to  $9/10$ ,  $2/5$ ,  $7/10$  and  $1/8$  of the way up. Order these fractions from smallest to largest.

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- 2 In the school polytunnel, 5th class fill four seed trays with compost. The first tray is  $3/4$  full, the second is  $7/8$  full, the third is  $1/5$  full and the fourth is  $11/12$  full. Order the trays from least full to most full.

Order from smallest to largest:  $3/4$ ,  $7/8$ ,  $1/5$ ,  $11/12$

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