Equivalent fractions — a first look (1/2 = 2/4)

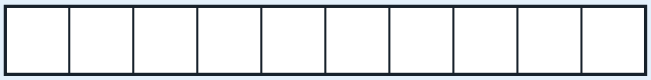
MODULE 3 · FRACTIONS AND FIRST DECIMALS NUMBER

HOW TO ANSWER TODAY

- **Equivalent fractions.** Whatever you multiply (or divide) the bottom by, do the same to the top.
  2/5 = ?/15. Bottom × 3, so top × 3 → 6/15
- **Lowest terms.** Divide top and bottom by the same number until you can't go any further.
  12/18 ÷ 6 → 2/3
- **Compare fractions.** Make the bottom numbers (denominators) the same first. Then compare the top numbers.
  1/4 and 1/3 → 3/12 and 4/12 → 1/4 < 1/3

TRY IT ON THE LINE

Use the fraction strips to compare and shade the fractions in the lesson.



1. Shade each fraction the lesson asks for.
2. Line two strips up to see which fraction is bigger.
3. Find two strips that shade the same amount (equivalent fractions).

PRACTICE

1. On the school nature walk through the local park, 3rd class spot that **2/3** of the trees along the path are oak trees. The teacher says this is the same as a fraction with **9** on the bottom. Fill in the missing number: **2/3** = ?/ **9**.

2. Aoife cuts a tray of flapjacks into **7** equal pieces for her sleepover. Her friends eat **5** of the pieces before bedtime. What fraction of the tray has been eaten?

   > A shape is divided into 7 equal parts and 5 are shaded. What fraction of the shape is shaded?

CHALLENGE

1. At Camogie training under the floodlights, the coach says **3/4** of the squad have brought their helmets. There are **20** girls at training in total. Fill in the missing number to show how many girls that is: **3/4** = ?/ **20**.

2. Aoife is at a sleepover and four friends each have a packet of biscuits. Cara has eaten **3/4** of her packet, Oisín has eaten **7/8**, Niamh has eaten **1/5** and Tadhg has eaten **11/12**. Order the amounts eaten from smallest to largest.