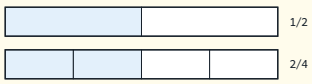
Lesson 32

Equivalent fractions with fraction strips

MATCH ½ WITH QUARTERS

1. The top strip is cut into **2** equal parts and **1** part is shaded.
2. The bottom strip is the same length, cut into **4** equal quarters.
3. Shading **2** quarters reaches exactly the same far edge.
4. So the two fractions name the same amount: **1/2** = **2/4**.



WARM-UP

Shade each strip so the far edges line up, then write the equivalent fraction.

1. Shade 1/2 on the top strip and 2/4 on a same-size strip below it.

2. Shade 1/3 on one strip and 2/6 on a same-size strip below it.

3. Shade 3/6 on one strip and check it lines up with 1/2 on a same-size strip.

PRACTICE

1. A sandwich is cut in half. Ben cuts the same-size sandwich into quarters. How many quarters equal one half of the sandwich?
2. A loaf of bread shaded to one third matches a same-size loaf cut into sixths. How many sixths reach the same far edge?
3. Two quarters of a pizza strip are shaded. A same-size strip is cut into eighths. How many eighths reach the same edge?

SPOT THE MISTAKE

Cian says: 'To make an equivalent fraction of 1/3, I add the same number to the top and bottom. So 1/3 = 2/4.'

Cian is wrong. What is the correct rule, and what is a real equivalent of 1/3?

REFLECT Can two fractions look different but name the same amount? How did the strips show this?

NUMBER