

Ordering simple fractions

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 $\times 3$, so top $\times 3 \rightarrow 6/15$
- **Compare fractions.** Make the bottom numbers (denominators) the same first. Then compare the top numbers.
 $1/4$ and $1/3 \rightarrow 3/12$ and $4/12 \rightarrow 1/4 < 1/3$

STRETCH PROBLEMS

- 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 Oisín is making sandwiches for the 4th class picnic. He fills $3/4$ of one tray with ham sandwiches, $7/8$ of another tray with cheese sandwiches, and $1/5$ of a third tray with egg sandwiches. Order the trays from smallest fraction filled to largest.