

Simplifying fractions

MODULE 3 · FRACTIONS, DECIMALS AND PERCENTAGES NUMBER

HOW TO ANSWER TODAY

- **Lowest terms.** Divide top and bottom by the same number until you can't go any further.
 $12/18 \div 6 \rightarrow 2/3$
- **Equivalent fractions.** Whatever you multiply (or divide) the bottom by, do the same to the top.
 $2/5 = ?/15$. Bottom $\times 3$, so top $\times 3 \rightarrow 6/15$

★ STRETCH PROBLEMS

- 1 Saoirse invites friends to a sleepover and lays out 20 biscuits on a tray. By bedtime, 15 of the 20 biscuits have been eaten. Write the fraction $15/20$ in its lowest terms.

Simplify $15/20$ to lowest terms.

- 2 Taking the roll on Monday morning, the teacher notes that $9/10$ of the pupils in 5th class are present. Across the whole school there are 80 pupils, and the same fraction of the whole school is present. How many pupils out of 80 does $9/10$ equal?

Fill in the missing number: $9/10 = ?/80$

- 3 At Camogie training under the floodlights, the coach says $3/4$ of the squad must stay back for extra puck-around drills. There are 20 players at training in total. How many players is that, written as $?/20$?

Fill in the missing number: $3/4 = ?/20$