

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

- On the school tour to the Cliffs of Moher, **36** of the **40** pupils wore hi-vis vests for the cliff path walk. Simplify the fraction **36/40** to its lowest terms.
- In spring, 5th class plant seeds in the school polytunnel. They fill **18** of the **30** rows with lettuce seeds. What is **18/30** in its lowest terms?
 Simplify 18/30 to lowest terms.
- 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: $9/10 = ?/80$
- On a sponsored cycle, Tadhg plans to complete **28** laps of the cycle path in Phoenix Park. He has finished **3/4** of his laps so far. Fill in the missing number to show how many laps he has cycled:
 $3/4 = ?/28$.
- In 5th class, **11/12** of the pupils volunteered for the school-bag rota for the term. The teacher writes the same fraction with **60** as the denominator on the chart. Fill in the missing number:
 $11/12 = ?/60$.