

EXERCISE 12.1

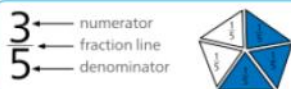
Describe common fractions

If you share something equally, you divide it into fractions.

A fraction is a part of a whole or group. In Grade 4, you will learn to write fractions using symbols. Here are some fractions and their symbols.

	Fraction name	Number form
	One half	$\frac{1}{2}$
	One third	$\frac{1}{3}$
	One quarter	$\frac{1}{4}$
	One fifth	$\frac{1}{5}$
	One sixth	$\frac{1}{6}$
	One seventh	$\frac{1}{7}$
	One eighth	$\frac{1}{8}$

If a whole is divided into equal parts and we take more than one part, the number above the fraction line will be more than 1.



The denominator shows how many equal parts the whole has been divided into. The numerator shows how many of those equal parts are being used.

Example

Show $\frac{3}{4}$ in a diagram.

3 of the 4 parts are shaded

3 is the numerator

4 is the denominator



- Show these fractions in diagrams like the example.
 - $\frac{1}{4}$
 - $\frac{2}{3}$
- Copy these shapes into your book. Shade the fractions.
 - $\frac{3}{4}$
 - $\frac{5}{6}$
- Seven friends share a bar of chocolate equally.
 - How many sevenths are there in the bar of chocolate?
 - How many sevenths did each child get?
 - How many sevenths did three children get altogether?
 - Write seven sevenths as a fraction. What does this fraction mean?
- Look at this shape.
 - How many equal parts does it have?
 - One part is called one $\square$.
 - Write one part using a fraction symbol.
 - Draw the same shape and shade in $\frac{7}{8}$.
 - If $\frac{7}{8}$ is shaded, what fraction is not shaded?
- Look at these diagrams. Write down the fraction that is shaded. Give the name of the fraction and write it as a fraction.
 -
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- Look at this diagram. What fraction has not been shaded?

$$\frac{2}{2} = 1$$

Order and compare common fractions

This is a fraction wall. Each row is divided into a different type of fraction. The top row is one whole, so it has a 1. The next row shows halves. Two halves are the same as one whole. The next row has three-thirds – the same as one whole.

Example

Fill in the symbol < or > in the number sentence:

$$\frac{2}{5} \square \frac{3}{6}$$

Look at the fraction wall.

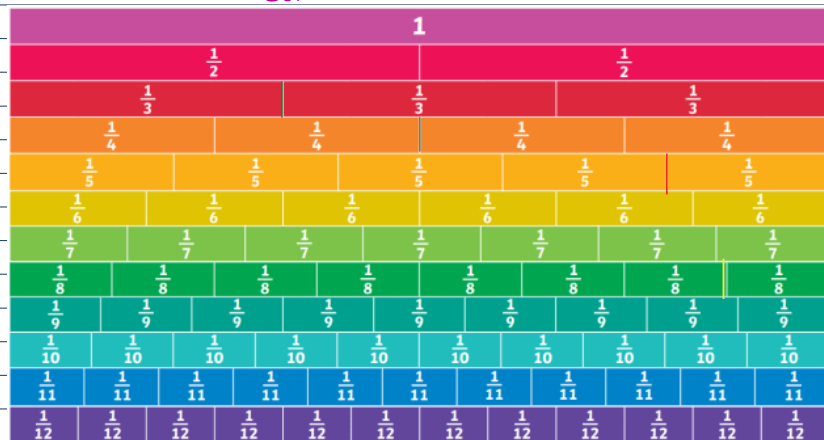
Find the rows with fifths and sixths.

Three-sixths are greater than two-fifths.

$$\text{So } \frac{2}{5} < \frac{3}{6}$$



Fraction Wall



< less than > greater than

$$\frac{1}{3} < \frac{2}{4} < \frac{4}{5} < \frac{7}{8}$$

Order the fractions in ascending $\rightarrow$ smallest $\rightarrow$ biggest

EXERCISE 12.2

Use the fraction wall to help you answer the questions below.

1. Which is smaller, $\frac{1}{2}$ or $\frac{1}{3}$?
2. Which is greater, $\frac{1}{5}$ or $\frac{1}{3}$?
3. Arrange these fractions in ascending order (smallest to largest):
 $\frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{5}, \frac{1}{3}$
4. Fill in the correct symbol, < or >, in the following number sentences:
 - a) $\frac{3}{5} \square \frac{5}{6}$
 - b) $\frac{2}{5} \square \frac{3}{7}$
 - c) $\frac{5}{8} \square \frac{6}{7}$
 - d) $\frac{2}{8} \square \frac{3}{5}$
5. Is this statement true or false?
 $\frac{2}{7} < \frac{3}{7}$ but $\frac{2}{5} > \frac{2}{7}$
6. Which would you rather have? Why?
 - a) Half of a pizza or a third of a pizza?
 - b) One-sixth of a pizza or an eighth of a pizza?
 - c) One-fifth of a cake or a quarter of a cake?
 - d) One-seventh of a cake or one-eighth of a cake?