Simplifying Fractions Worksheet

Practice naming, simplifying, shading, and comparing fractions.

NAME _____ DATE _____ SCORE _____

MY GOALS

- **I can practice simplifying fractions.**
- **I can use the word numerator.**
- **I can use the word denominator.**
- **I can use equivalent fractions.**

LEARN IT

Fractions, names and simplest form

A fraction shows parts of a whole. The numerator (top) counts the parts you have and the denominator (bottom) tells how many equal parts make the whole. To simplify a fraction, divide the numerator and denominator by their greatest common factor so the numbers are as small as possible.

WATCH ME

Simplify 8/12 to lowest terms.

1. Find a common factor of 8 and 12. Both divide by 4.
2. Divide numerator and denominator by 4: 8 ÷ 4 = 2, 12 ÷ 4 = 3.
3. Write the simplified fraction: 2/3.

ANSWER **2/3**

KEY WORDS

Numerator Top number in a fraction; how many parts you have.

Denominator Bottom number; how many equal parts the whole is divided into.

Equivalent Fractions Different fractions that name the same amount.

Simplify Make a fraction as small as possible by dividing top and bottom.

REMEMBER

- Numerator is the top number; denominator is the bottom number.
- Two fractions can name the same amount (equivalent fractions).
- To simplify, divide both numbers by the same factor until no more common factors remain.

WATCH OUT

When simplifying, always divide both numbers by the same factor; do not change only one number.

PART A Warm up

1 FILL IN THE BLANK

Fill in the missing number or fraction.

a) Write the denominator of 5/12: _____

b) Write the numerator of 7/10: _____

c) One-half is equal to _____ /4

d) Two-thirds is equal to _____ /6

PART B Practice

2 FILL IN THE BLANK

Simplify each fraction to lowest terms. Write the simplified fraction in the blank.

a) 6/8 = _____

b) 10/15 = _____

c) 9/12 = _____

3 DRAW

Shade the bar to show 3/8 of the whole.

8 parts



Draw here

PART C Apply it

4 WRITE

A cake is cut into 6 equal slices. Anna eats 2 slices and Ben eats 1 slice. What fraction of the cake is left? Explain how you found your answer.

PART D Challenge

5 COMPARE

Compare each pair. Write >, <, or = in the box.

a) 1/2 ___ 3/8

b) 2/3 ___ 4/6

c) 5/8 ___ 3/8

Pair	Sign

MY CONCLUSION

CHECK YOUR WORK

- ☐ I wrote the numerator or denominator when asked.
- ☐ I simplified fractions by dividing top and bottom by the same number.
- ☐ I shaded or compared fractions and explained my thinking.

HOW DID IT GO? ◯ I can do this on my own ◯ I need a bit more practice ◯ I would like some help

Simplifying Fractions Worksheet

TEACHING NOTES

- **Question 4:** A strong answer shows the subtraction of eaten slices from the whole and simplifies the fraction if possible.

QUESTION	ANSWER	WHY
Question 1	**a) 12 b) 7 c) 2 d) 4**	Denominator is the bottom number so 5/12 has denominator 12. Numerator is the top number so 7/10 has numerator 7. One-half equals two quarters, so 1/2 = 2/4. Two-thirds equals four sixths, so 2/3 = 4/6.
Question 2	**a) 3/4 b) 2/3 c) 3/4**	6/8 simplified by dividing both by 2 gives 3/4. 10/15 divides by 5 to give 2/3. 9/12 divides by 3 to give 3/4. Always divide numerator and denominator by their greatest common factor.
Question 3	**Shade 3 out of the 8 equal parts (3/8).**	Three of the eight equal bar segments should be shaded to show 3/8. Watch for shading whole segments only, not partial pieces.
Question 4	**3/6 which simplifies to 1/2**	A strong answer shows the subtraction of eaten slices from the whole and simplifies the fraction if possible.
Question 5	**>; =; >**	1/2 (4/8) is larger than 3/8 so use >. 2/3 equals 4/6 because both name the same amount so use =. 5/8 is more than 3/8, so use >.